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MISCELLANEOUS.

—65—

Respect to Rulers.

HIS MAJESTY'S VISIT—DUTIES OF SUBJECTS AND PRINCES.—FROM THE SCOTSMAN.

There were none more anxious than he was to express, with warmth and sincerity, the cordial feelings which the occasion called for. None approached his Sovereign with a warmer expression of reverence and sincerity, and none was more anxious to maintain his duty to the King, without any subserviency, however, of political opinion. No one was more ready than he was to come forward and pay homage to the honour and dignity of the Crown; but at the same time he was not to forget the just and jealous care with which he was bound to protect the rights and interests of the people under this free constitution. He felt a pride in shewing every respect and honour to the person who wears the Crown of these realms; but in doing so, he must not forget the respect due to himself; he must repeat, that he had duties also to maintain for the people, which were interwoven with the best rights and securities of the Crown, and which, in fact, formed the basis of the true power and constitutional glory of the Sovereign.—*Duke of Hamilton's speech at the Banquet given by the City of Edinburgh to his Majesty, 24th August 1822.*

The conduct of the people of Edinburgh, during his Majesty's visit, has been every thing that could be wished. They have been generally actuated by the same manly, constitutional, and truly noble sentiments so well expressed in the admirable speech of the Duke of Hamilton; and we are extremely glad to hear that their conduct has been as gratifying to his Majesty, as it was honourable to themselves. Every possible effort was made to impress the citizens with the same wild enthusiasm, and to make them display the same frantic and extravagant demonstrations of joy, as had been manifested by the citizens of Dublin. But the good sense of the Scottish public has completely disappointed the hopes of the Ultra sycophants. The citizens remained alike insensible to the solicitations of doggrel versifiers and fustian prosers. There was nothing deserving the name of enthusiasm in their behaviour. Their reception of the King was precisely what it ought to have been. It had nothing in it of disrespect or neglect, and as little of intemperate zeal, or of cringing and fawning servility. Our countrymen knew that his Majesty, as a constitutional King, was justly entitled to every rational demonstration of respect and attachment. But, at the same time, they did not fail to remember what they owed to themselves. They knew that the liberties of Britain did not depend on the existence of any man, family, or set of men, but on the spirit and energy of her inhabitants; they knew that they were freemen and not slaves; and they also knew that it was by maintaining a dignified and manly deportment, and not by adulation and flattery, that they could hope to recommend themselves to a constitutional Prince, or to conciliate the esteem of a really wise Monarch.

Adulation is alike odious and contemptible. It corrupts those to whom it is addressed, by perverting and disquising the truth respecting their conduct, and by giving them false and exaggerated notions of their station and importance; and it debases those who offer it, by degrading them in their own estimation, and generating a consciousness of falsehood and meanness. The enlightened citizens of a free country rejoice with their Sovereign, and hail his presence amongst them; but they pay him this homage only on account of his relation to the pub-

lic. They justly consider his sacredness as the sacredness of the community; his authority, as its authority; and his Majesty as the Majesty of the people. And whatever may be his private vices or defects, they yield him a willing deference and respect, because he is the representative of the community, and its Chief Magistrate.

The King has seen but little of Scotland; but that little will enable him to form a far more correct opinion, of the feelings and sentiments of the people, than he could ever have learned from the addresses with which the freehold corporation have so frequently filled the *Gazette*. He has had an opportunity of comparing the quiet, orderly, and respectful behaviour of the Scottish public, with the false and libellous representations so lately made by the little faction who engross every situation of power and emolument. And if his Majesty's discernment leads him, as it naturally must, to set a very high value on the disinterested attachment of his subjects, it will also, we trust, induce him to listen with extreme caution to the future statements of those who, to serve their own selfish purposes, have so often misrepresented and traduced their objects and principles. His Majesty is mistaken if he supposes that the opinions of the Scottish people on the great question of Parliamentary and Burgh Reform have undergone the least change. They are quite as much impressed with a conviction of the necessity and importance of these measures at this moment as in 1819; and there can be no doubt, that had his Majesty visited Scotland three or four years since, his reception would then, as now, have been courteous and agreeable to himself. The people know enough of the Constitution not to confound the King and his Ministers. The latter, indeed, take especial care to inculcate the opinion that those who are hostile to the one are equally so to the other. Nothing, however, can be more entirely unconstitutional than this doctrine; and the reception his Majesty has met with in this city, where five-sixths of the inhabitants are decidedly opposed to the politics of Ministers, shews that it is as *false* as it is unconstitutional and dangerous.

But although the people have distinguished between the King and his Ministers, they have not, and they could not, shut their eyes to the fact, that the Ministers are nominated by the King, and that they are his servants. We suspect that this feeling has had a good deal of influence in repressing popular zeal and enthusiasm on this occasion. The King's reception was respectful and polite. But had his Ministers been favourites with the public—had they, instead of being the patrons of the principles of the Holy Alliance abroad, and of every species of abuse and corruption at home, been the zealous and steady friends of civil and religious liberty, we venture to affirm that his Majesty's reception would have been widely different. A gentlemanlike and affable demeanour may go far to conciliate those who come within its immediate sphere. But such persons must always form an infinitely small fraction of the mass of the people of a great nation. The affections of the latter must be gained by other and very different means—by the substantial, rather than the showy qualities—by the patronage of Ministers whose measures are in unison with the real interests of the nation, who are firmly attached to those principles of rational liberty which placed the Family of Brunswick on the throne, who are disposed to remedy every real grievance, and

who never lose sight of the maxim, that the freedom and prosperity of the subject is the best bulwark and defence of the Crown. Success sheds a lustre round the throne of a victorious Monarch. Splendid processions, magnificent fêtes, and the gorgeous display of regal pomp and grandeur, strike the vulgar with astonishment, and elicit the plaudits of women and children. But the intelligent and sober-minded part of the community reserve the full tide of their gratitude, affection, and esteem, to greet the Prince who labours to consolidate and extend the civil and religious privileges of his subjects.

Those who reside at a distance, and whose information is derived from the statements in the greater part of the Edinburgh newspapers, would be apt to conclude that we had outdone even the Irish in the extravagance of our conduct, and the fulsome-ness of our adoration. There is hardly, however, even the shadow of truth in these statements. On Thursday so'night when the King went in state from the Palace to the Castle, the people conducted themselves with the utmost regularity, propriety, and decorum; but the cheering, far from being enthusiastic, was, on the contrary, uncommonly faint and partial. The truth is, that the purveyors of blarney and bombastical adulation completely overshot the mark. Had they been less solicitous for shouts and applause they would have had more of them. The extraordinary zeal they manifested put the people on their guard. They instantly suspected that their cheers would be construed into an approval of the conduct of Ministers, and they therefore withheld them, and were merely courteous.

That there has been much grovelling prostration cannot be denied. It has, however, been exclusively confined to the privileged classes; and it would be rather a little too much to make the people answerable for the language of the clergy, freeholders, and members of town-councils. The ultra-addressers seem to have been particularly anxious to inculcate the notion that his Majesty holds the crown in virtue of his lineal descent from the Stuart family! But although flattery can do much, we doubt if it will hardly be able to eradicate the memory of the Revolution of 1688, or to efface the act of Settlement from the statute-book! These courtly sycophants should have known, that the right of the Brunswick family to the throne of these realms rests on an infinitely better foundation than that of hereditary descent—on the stipulations in a solemn compact entered into between them and the people of Britain. And assuredly his Majesty would not be what the commission of the General Assembly tell us he is, “a King distinguished for every splendid endowment, and graced by every elegant accomplishment, at once the safeguard of our country and the bulwark of our church,” if he were ignorant of the fact, that his ancestors were raised to the throne, to the exclusion of its legitimate possessors, by the voice of the people, and if he were not proud of this glorious title to the crown. The true glory of a King of Great Britain can only arise from his being the head of a free, an open-hearted, and a manly people. A constitutional Prince must cordially detest the slavish maxims of the ultra addressers. His Majesty, greatly to his honour, publicly declared that he had educated the lamented Princess Charlotte in the principles of Mr. Fox—that is, in principles which shew that the power and splendour of the crown can only be maintained by maintaining unimpaired the rights, privileges, and liberties of the people.

None can deny that his Majesty's visit was an act of gracious kindness and condescension on his part; but we are not of the number of those who expect that it will be productive of any considerable or solid advantage. Ministers are notoriously averse to every real improvement in the institutions of the country; and so long as these continue in their present state, we are not very sanguine in our hopes of advantage from balls, levees, clans, kilts, and drawing-rooms! It is astonishing, indeed, how sensible men can suffer themselves to be so easily duped and deceived. As a mere piece of ceremonial and of state pageantry, the King's visit was well enough; but to suppose that it will lead to any important political consequence evinces an extreme degree of silliness and credulity. We might as well expect to gather grapes from brambles. What, we should like to know,

has the king's visit done for Ireland? Has it been the cause of one solitary improvement, or the means of correcting a single abuse?

At a time when the press teems with the vilest and most abject adulation, it is doubly necessary for those who really venerate the monarchical branch of the constitution, and the sound principles on which it is instituted, to exert themselves to counteract the pernicious effects of this base flattery. We must always bear in mind, that in all free countries *sovereignty is a trust reposed in the hands of the King, or Chief Magistrate, to be exerted exclusively for the benefit of the people.* “A good Prince,” says Vattel, “a wise conductor of society, ought to have his mind impressed with this great truth, that the *sovereign power is solely entrusted with him for the safety of the state, and the happiness of all his people;*” that he is not permitted to propose his own satisfaction, or private advantage, in the administration of affairs; but that he ought to direct all his wishes and all his views to the advantage of the state and people who have submitted to him. ** A base flattery has in most kingdoms caused these maxims to be forgotten. A crowd of servile courtiers without difficulty persuade a proud monarch, that the nation was made for him and not he for the nation. He soon considers the Kingdom as his patrimony, and his people as a herd of cattle, from which he may obtain riches, and dispose of them so as best to answer his views and gratify his passions. From thence arise those fatal wars undertaken by ambition, restlessness, hatred, and pride: From thence those oppressive taxes dissipated by luxury, or squandered upon mistresses and favourites: From thence, in fine, are important posts given by favour, while public merit is neglected, and every thing that does not immediately interest the Prince abandoned to ministers and subalterns.”—(English Trans. vol. i. p. 20, ed. 1760).—Such are the duties of Prince; and such too, are the disastrous effects of that fulsome adoration which is at this moment the staple article in the periodical press of Britain.

“*The good of the people;*” says Lord Bolingbroke, “is the ultimate and true end of Government. Governors are therefore appointed for this end, and the civil constitution which appoints them, and invests them with their power, is determined to do so by the law of nature and reason, which has determined the end of Government; and which admits the form of Government, as the proper means of arriving at that end.—Now the greatest good of a people is their liberty. Liberty is to the collective body what health, is to the individual body. Without health no pleasure can be enjoyed by society. The obligation, therefore, to defend the freedom of such constitutions, will appear most sacred to a patriot King!

“Kings who have weak understandings, bad hearts, and strong prejudices, and all these, as it often happens, inflamed by their passions, and rendered incurable by their self-conceit and presumption; such Kings are apt to imagine, and they conduct themselves so as to make many of their subjects imagine, that the King and the people in free governments are rival powers who stand in competition with each other, who have different interests, and must of course have different views; that the rights and privileges of the people are so many spoils taken from the rights and prerogatives of the crown; and that the rules and laws made for the exercise and security of the former, are so many diminutions of their dignity, and restraints on their power.

“A patriot King will see all this in a far different and much truer light. The constitution will be considered by him as one law consisting of two tables, containing the rule of his government and the measure of his subjects' obedience; or as one system composed of different parts and powers, but all duly proportioned to one another, and conspiring by their harmony to the perfection of the whole. He will make one, and but one distinction, between his rights and those of his people; *he will look on his to be a trust and theirs a property.* He will discern that he can have a right to no more than is trusted to him by the constitution; and that his people, who have an original right to the whole, can have the sole indefensible right to any part, and really have such a right to that part which they have reserved to

themselves. In fine, the constitution will be revered by him as the law of God and of man; the force of which binds the King as much as the meanest subject, and the reason of which ought to bind him much more."—(Idea of a Patriot King, p. 120.)

Much has been said, and we doubt not with perfect sincerity, of the fine taste, sagacity, and discrimination of the King. But either these qualities have been very much exaggerated, or his Majesty must feel extremely disgusted at the fulsome and loathsome panegyrics of which he has been the daily theme since his arrival in Scotland. We believe that his Majesty, and his Majesty's predecessors of the Brunswick family, have faithfully discharged the duties of their high station; and have therefore justly merited our gratitude and affection. It cannot, however, be concealed, that there is a reciprocity of obligation, and that the Brunswick family have been equally indebted to the partiality and kindness of the people of Britain; and it is but a poor compliment to his Majesty to attempt to conceal these obligations, or to keep them constantly in the shade.

"I should imagine, my Lords," said the Earl of Sandwich, in a speech in the House of Peers in 1742, "that when a King of the House of Hanover surveys his navies, reviews his troops, examines his revenue, beholds the splendour of his court, or contemplates the extent and richness of his dominions, he cannot but sometimes, however unwillingly, compare his present state with that of his ancestors; and that when he gives audience to the ambassadors of Princes, who, perhaps, never heard of Hanover, and directs the payment of sums, by the smallest of which all his ancient inheritance would be dearly purchased, and reflects, as surely he sometimes will, that all these honours and riches, this reverence from foreign powers, and this domestic splendour, are the gratuitous and voluntary gifts of the mighty people of Great Britain, he should find his heart overflowing with unlimited gratitude, and should be ready to sacrifice to the happiness of his benefactors, not only every petty interest, or accidental inclination, but even his repose, his safety, or his life; that he should be ready to relieve them of every burden before they have complained, and to aid them with all his power before they have requested his assistance."—(Timberland's Debates in the House of Lords, vol. 8. p. 245.)

Church Preferment.—A Friend to Truth thus writes to the Editor of the MORNING CHRONICLE;—"Sir,—Having seen in your paper of Tuesday last a paragraph, written under the title of 'AN ENEMY TO PRIESTCRAFT,' and calling in question the right of the Hon. and Rev. George Pellow to hold Church preferment to the extent of 4,000*l.* per annum; I beg, Mr. Editor, to state from my own knowledge, that the Vicarage of Sutton, when the former Incumbent had it, produced 600*l.* per annum, but that its present possessor has never received from it more than 400*l.* per annum. Mr. Pellow possesses no other Church preferment, and for this 400*l.* per annum he has to attend to a numerous population, and to discharge the whole of the duty, which he does in a manner highly creditable to himself."

Bourbon Spirit.—The meanness and malice which characterize the whole Family of Bourbon, naturally extend themselves to the lowest depositories of their power. An instructive instance of this occurred the other day at Poitiers, to which place the Parisian journals had sent Reporters to write accounts of General Berton's Trial. While the Ministerial Reporters had the most ample accommodation, only two tickets of admission were granted for all the Opposition agents, and every possible obstacle was thrown in the way of the latter. The Ministerial Reporters forwarded their accounts to their respective journals through official sources with great rapidity: to equal them in promptitude, the Reporters for the liberal papers resolved to send expresses at their own cost, and the permission of the Prefect being necessary, they applied for it. The answer was a refusal; and the reason assigned the calm avowal, that "there would be too much good nature in not making a distinction between our friends and those who are not our friends!"

Oblivion.—The talk about Lord Castlereagh is rapidly subsiding; and though many of the measures in which he took an active part will assist to disgrace the British Annals, as a Minister he will soon be as little spoken of as his predecessor Perceval. "It is amazing—(says the author of *Table Talk*)—how soon the rich and titled, and even some of those who have wielded great political power, are forgotten!"

"A little rule, a little sway,
Is all the great and mighty have
Between the cradle and the grave;—

and after its short date, they hardly leave a name behind them, 'A great man's memory may, at the common rate, survive him half a year.' His heirs and successors take his titles, his power, and his wealth,—all that made him considerable or courted by others; and he has left nothing else behind him either to delight or benefit the world."

The King's Acceptance of Relics of the Pretender.—We have noticed the respect that His Majesty bears to every thing relative to the Royal Family of the House of Stuart. The King has many relics of them, and to these he has now to add another, presented by a lady of this city upon the recent Royal visit. We are forbidden to mention the lady's name, who belongs to a highly respectable family, and has been alluded to in works connected with the events of 1745. The Prince Leopold was presented with a ring that belonged to Mary Queen of Scots, by the same lady, when he visited Edinburgh. His Majesty wished to obtain a dirk that had belonged to Prince Charles, but the Chieftain in whose possession it was, having declined to part with it, (as we have heard,) the lady alluded to declared her intention to present a knife, fork, and spoon, which had belonged to the Prince, to his Majesty, if he visited Scotland. These reliques were placed in the hands of Sir Walter Scott, to be presented by him along with the gift of the Sisters of the Silver Cross. The King received them most graciously, and desired his warmest thanks to be conveyed to the lady, with the expressions of his regard for every remembrance of the "unfortunate Chevalier," as he called him. At the Drawing-room, and the Ball, the King took particular notice of the lady, and always speaks of her present in a manner which shows his esteem for the donor, and the high value he sets on the gift. The knife, fork, and spoon, are of the finest silver; their handles are richly embossed with the thistle, and the ends of them are adorned with the rose. The letters C. S. are shortly and conspicuously marked on them. They were manufactured in Holland, and, consequently, are impressed with the Dutch plate stamp. They were contained in an old case, which the lady intended to have replaced with a modern one of morocco leather, but his Majesty's good taste preferred their ancient garb. —*Edinburgh Observer.*

Severous Provision in the New Marriage Act.—By this profound measure it is enacted, that if both the parties be under age, the one who is of age shall swear that he or she believes they are both of age! Here's "Collective Wisdom" with a vengeance!—We know of but one instance at all equal to it; which is in an act passed during the gentle reign of the first Charles, in which the punishment awarded to a certain offence (smuggling, we believe) is a public whipping and a fine; "half of which," says the Act alluded to, "shall go to the King, and half to the informer!"—In the celebrated Trial-by-Battle case, a few years ago, Lord Ellenborough said, that "without stopping to enquire whether the Law were equitable or not, if it were the Law, he must put it into execution;" we should like to see the above case, under the Smuggling Act, brought forward!

Canon of Criticism.—The Cardinal de Reiz asked Menage one day to give him some idea of poetry, that he might be able to form a sort of judgment of the mass that was brought to him. "Sir," said Menage, "this is a matter that would occupy more time than you could spare; but I'll tell you what you may do—whenever they read any of their poems to you, say at a venture, 'That's very bad'—you'll seldom be wrong."

Bartelmy Fair.—The elegant sports at this City Jubilee are proceeding in full vigour. They differ very little, we believe, from those described by George Alexander Stevens, some years ago, in the following magnificent lines:—

Here was, first of all, crowds against other crowds driving,
Like wind and tide meeting, each contrary striving;
Shrill fiddling, sharp fighting, and shouting and shrieking,
Fifes, trumpets, drums, bagpipes, and barrow-girls squeaking
Come! my rare round-and-round, here's choice of fine ware,
Though all was not sound sold at Bartelmy Fair.
There was drolls, hornpipe-dancing, and showing of postures,
With frying black-puddings and opening of oysters;
With salt-boxes solos, and gallery folks squalling,
The tap-house guests roaring and mouth-pieces bawling;
Pimps, pawnbrokers, strollers, fat landladies, sailors,
Bawds, baillies, jills, jockies, thieves, tumblers, and tailors:
Here's Punch's whole play of the Gunpowder Plot,
Wild beasts all alive, and pens-pudding all hot;
Fine sausages fried, and the Black on the wire,
The whole Court of France, and nice pig at the fire:
Hero's the up-and-downs, Who'll take a seat in the chair?
Though there's more up-and-downs than at Bartelmy Fair.
Here's Whittington's cat, and the tall dromedary,
The chase without horses, and Queen of Hungary;
Here's the merry-go-rounds,—Come! who rides? come! who
rides, Sir?
Wine, beer, ale, and cakes, fire-eating besides, Sir;
The fam'd learned dog, that can tell all his letters,
And some men, as scholars, are not much his betters.

Irish Cabins.—“One must see these miserable huts, and witness their interior economy, and the daily habits of their inmates, to form any adequate idea of their deplorable condition. The most florid and accurate description would but leave a painful impression on the mind, without placing the actual scene before you. Suffice it to say, that the parents, children, servants, lodgers, cattle, pigs, and poultry, have but one and the same miserable room for shelter and repose. Into this the light of heaven only enters by the same apertures in the broken roof which also admit the wet; and the turf smoke is only suffered partially to escape, because it contributes to the warmth of the habitation.”—This description of an Irish peasant's dwelling is taken from a little pamphlet just published, entitled, “A letter to the Absentee Landlords of the South of Ireland, on the Means of tranquillizing their Tenantry, and improving their Estates.”—The writer avoids all political discussion; but he suggests,—at least they so appear to us,—some very judicious modes of meliorating the condition of the class of persons who occupy the wretched habitations above described:—and of this we are quite sure, that there can neither be peace nor prosperity in Ireland, till its labouring population are lifted at least one step above the condition of cattle, in which they are now manifestly placed. If the British Constitution was even all that its admirers pretend, it is evident that its “blessings” have not yet found their way into the cabins of the Irish, which are evidently more fit for the abode of wild beasts than for the residence of a brave and generous people, who would be quite as peaceable and industrious as their neighbours, were they equally well-treated. “Convince Paddy that you love and care for him (says a benevolent Irish Clergyman, who writes to the author of the Letter to the Absentee Landlords) and if he is not the most devoted, faithful, and attached creature on the face of the earth, I will forfeit my life.”

Charles the Second.—Among the numerous satires which were written against the King and the Court in this reign, was a ballad called “Old Rowley,” which lashed his Majesty very severely, by comparing him to an ugly, old, broken-down stallion of his, which went by that name. One evening when the King went to visit Mrs. Halford, a favourite young lady, he overheard her singing this very song; but did not think proper to knock till she had finished. The lady, finding that some person was at the door, asked “Who is there?” to which the King humorously answered, “It is Old Rowley himself, Madam.”

Circumcision.—Being led (says Evelyn) through the Synagogue into a private house (this was at Rome in 1645) I found a world of people in a chamber: by and by came an old man, who prepared and laid in order divers instruments, brought by a little child about seven years old in a box. These the man laid in a silver basin; the knife was much like a short razor, to shut into the hilt. Then they burnt some incense in a censer, which perfumed the room all the while the ceremony was performing. In the basin was a little cap made of white paper like a capuchin's hood, not bigger than the finger; also a paper of a red astringent powder, I suppose of hore; a small instrument of silver, cleft in the middle at one end to take up the prepuce; and a fine linen cloth wrapped up. These being all in order, the women brought the infant, swaddled, out of another chamber, and delivered to the Rabbi, who carried and presented it before an altar or cupboard dressed up, on which lay the five books of Moses, and the Commandments a little unrolled: before this, with profound reverence, and mumbling a few words, he waved the child to and fro awhile; then he delivered it to another Rabbi, who sate all this time upon a table. Whilst the ceremony was performing, all the company fell a singing an Hebrew hymn in a barbarous tone, waving themselves to and fro; a ceremony they observe in all their devotions.—*Memoirs.*

Choppines.—*Hamlet* tells one of the female players, that she was nearer heaven than when he saw her last by the altitude of a choppine.—When Mr. Evelyn was at Venice in 1645, he saw the Noblemen stalking with their Ladies on choppines: these are high-heeled shoes, particularly affected by these proud dames; or, as some say, invented to keep them at home, it being very difficult to walk with them: whence one being asked how he liked the Venetian dames, replied, that they were *mezzo carno, mezzo ligno*,—half flesh, half wood,—and he would have none of them! They set their hands on the heads of two matron-like servants, to support them. ‘Tis ridiculous to see how these ladies crawl in and out of their gondolas by reason of their choppines, and what dwarfs they appear, when taken down from their wooden scaffolds!“

Naïve Replies.—The Queen of France once asked the Countess Amelia de Boufflers, a very charming young woman, which she loved most, her mother or her mother-in-law? For some time she refused to answer; but at last being asked which she would go to save if she saw them both drowning, she said: “I would go to save my mother, and be drowned with my mother-in-law.”—Speaking one day of her husband in no very respectful terms, before the Countess de Boufflers, the latter asked her if she had forgotten that she was talking of her son. “Ah!” replied the Countess Amelia quickly, “I always think that he is only your son-in-law.”—*Memoirs of a Traveller now in Retirement.*

Sting of Wasps, &c.—It has been found by experience, that the best remedy for the sting of wasps and bees, is to apply to the part affected common culinary salt, moistened with a little water. Even in a case where the patient had inadvertently swallowed a wasp in a draught of beer, and been stung by it in the windpipe, the alarming symptoms that ensued were almost instantly relieved by swallowing repeated doses of water, saturated with salt.

Brief Correspondence.—While Quin, the celebrated actor, was under an engagement with Rich, the then Manager of Covent Garden Theatre, he took umbrage at what he conceived to be the presumptuous behaviour of that gentleman, and suddenly retired to Bath. The parties remained mutually indignant, preserving an inflexible silence until the beginning of the next season, when Quin, whose generous heart began to relent at having treated an old acquaintance so cavalierly, determined to sacrifice his resentment to his friendship, and he accordingly wrote the following laconic epistle:—“I am at Bath—Quin.”—To which Rich, who does not appear to have sufficiently appreciated either the delicacy or generosity of its contents, returned an answer in almost as laconic though by no means in so polite a strain:—“Stay there and be damned—Rich.”—This ungracious treatment lost to the town an excellent actor, and to the manager a sincere friend, for he made a vow never again to engage with so “insolent a blockhead,” and he kept his word.

PARLIAMENTARY.

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Imperial Parliament.

HOUSE OF COMMONS, WEDNESDAY, JULY 24, 1822.

THE LATE PROCEEDINGS IN SCOTLAND.

Lord A. HAMILTON rose for the purpose of proposing a question to the right hon. the Secretary of State. It would be recollect that during a late discussion the right honourable gentleman and the Lord Advocate declared that Government intended to dismiss from his office the sheriff substitute of Lanarkshire, and that the proceeding was only delayed until a person should be selected to succeed that individual, who had made himself very conspicuous in recent transactions. He now wished to know whether this individual had yet been dismissed, or the right hon. gentleman had changed his determination on the subject?

Mr. PEEL said, the noble lord appeared to have misunderstood what had fallen from him on the occasion to which he alluded. Until that debate took place, he (Mr. Peel) had never heard of the individual who filled the office of sheriff substitute of Lanarkshire. In the course of the debate, he stated that he understood the Lord Advocate to have said that he knew it was the intention of the gentleman who had been appointed to the office of sheriff deputy to dismiss the gentleman who acted as sheriff substitute; but he certainly never asserted so from his own knowledge. He had no objection to inform the noble lord that he had given no hint for the removal of this individual; that he had received no communication on the subject from Scotland since the discussion took place; and that he believed the matter rested just as it did at that period.

Lord A. HAMILTON hoped the right hon. gentleman would excuse him if he questioned him in order to obtain further information on the subject before the session closed.

Mr. PEEL said he should certainly excuse the noble lord for posing any questions to him that he might think fit; but he did not think it probable that he would be prepared with any other answer than that which he had now given.

THE LATE QUEEN.

The house having resolved itself into a committee of supply.

Mr. LUSHINGTON proposed that a vote of 8,247l. be granted to complete the sum of 12,250l. on account of the allowance which would have been due to her late Majesty on the 5th of October, 1821, to be applied to the discharge of her Majesty's debts.

Mr. HUME submitted that it would be proper for ministers at once to vote a sum, exclusive of the proposed grant, adequate to the discharge of all her Majesty's debts. He recollects that the Chancellor of the Exchequer and a noble marquis not now present had declared in that house, that in case the prosecution against the Queen should not succeed, her Majesty should be treated in every respect as the Queen of England, and should receive every attention that her rank might require. He remembered that the Chancellor of the Exchequer particularly stated, that her Majesty should receive an allowance for an outfit. Notwithstanding these declarations however, her Majesty had not received a single shilling by way of outfit. The few debts which the Queen owed were not contracted for any extravagances, but were incurred by purchasing carriages and other articles necessary to her establishment. Ministers would abandon their duty, and throw discredit upon the crown, if they suffered any of her Majesty's debts to remain unliquidated. The total amount of the Queen's debts was 34,000l., and the assets were 26,000l.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER assured the committee, that he felt great pain in speaking upon this subject, but he could not avoid stating that the hon. member for Montrose was not justified in stating that he (the Chancellor of the Exchequer) gave any pledge of the nature which he had described. He was surprised that the honourable member should complain that ministers had not dealt liberally towards her Majesty. Her Majesty had received every allowance which Parliament had thought fit to grant, and the present vote was proposed in addition, to discharge her debts.

Mr. HUME observed, that by the present vote ministers did no more than was usually done when any member of the Royal family died —namely, to pay the quarterly allowance, as if that event had not taken place. Was this the liberality which ministers displayed to the Queen who gave up 15,000l. for five years, and when she returned to this country, never received a single shilling for arrears?

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER made an observation which was inaudible.

Mr. Alderman WOOD complained, that the promises which had been held out to the Queen, that she should be placed in a place at the expense of Government had never been fulfilled. It was matter of astonishment to him, when the Queen died, to find that her Majesty

owed so few debts; and he was convinced that if she had lived over the quarter, she would have paid every shilling for which she was indebted.

Mr. T. WILSON was of opinion, that if it should appear that the present grant would not cover all her Majesty's debts, ministers ought to propose a further sum.

Mr. HUME would rest his proposal on the candour of the right honourable gentleman himself, and for his information would put into his hands the letters of Lord Liverpool on the subject. The servants attending on her Majesty could not, out of the small sum now to be granted, obtain from the Queen's executors more than a quarter's allowance. If the claim of right were not conceded, he rested it upon the ground of mere liberality, as the paltry sum of 7,000l. would be sufficient.

Mr. Alderman WOOD alluded to the deductions made in the Queen's accounts, and to the sending of a person on the part of Government from the Stable-yard to ascertain whether the carriage ordered was worth the money charged.

Mr. LUSHINGTON apprehended that the sum proposed would cover the whole of the demands on the late Queen in this country. The foreign creditors had security in foreign property.

The resolution was then carried.

Mr. GOULBURN proposed the two following resolutions, which were agreed to:—

30,000l. for completing the works at Kingstown, Ireland.

7,200l. for the salaries of the Commissioners of Courts of Justice in Ireland.

Mr. WILMOT proposed the following, and, after a few words from Mr. HUME, it was agreed to:—

20,000l. to defray the charge of forts on the gold coast of Africa.

OPTHALMIC HOSPITAL.

Lord PALMERSTON rose to move the vote of 4,000l. for Sir W. Adams, as a reward for his services in attending the Ophthalmic Hospital. His lordship stated, that it was not his intention to enter into the medical controversy, regarding which the committee had declined to pass any opinion. Sir W. Adams had given his assistance for four years without salary, and the committee had assigned him 1,000l. a-year as a compensation for the loss of his private practice. His lordship then proposed the resolution.

Mr. H. G. BENNET begged to say, that the select committee was appointed to investigate the claims of Sir W. Adams. Into those claims he was also about to inquire, and they depended merely upon the services rendered. Sir W. Adam's promises had been followed by no performance. His claims for invention were undeserving of credit, and he had abandoned them one after another. The first question he should submit was, whether Sir W. Adams had fulfilled the engagement into which he had entered with Government, and wherein he undertook to save the country 50,000l. a year in pensions and expenses, by the cures he should perform? The disease of the Ophthalmia had been long known in this country, and though it might have been brought by our soldiers from Egypt, yet it was not then by any means new to the population. Sir W. Adams had abandoned what he called his invention, which, in fact, was nothing, and had adopted the practice pursued by all the surgeons of the army for many years, and especially recommended and followed by Dr. Vetch, in the hospital, from 1806 to 1812. The honourable gentleman then entered into the earlier history of the transaction, referring to the evidence of the committee and to the proposed connexion of Mr. Saunders with Sir W. Adams. On the death of Mr. Saunders, Sir W. Adams came to London and made fresh proposals to Government, and it was agreed that he should try his experiment, which had completely failed on several repetitions. After Sir W. Adams came into the hospital, it was found that what he called his new system was worth nothing; he had tried it only in about 20 cases, out of between 300 and 400; and in all the rest he had pursued the well-known practice of Dr. Vetch. Mr. Saunders had used scissors to remove the granulations on the eye, and Sir W. Adams had only substituted the knife and a severer process than the ordinary course, but in this he had been wholly unsuccessful. The hon. member objected strongly to the manner in which patients had been dragged up for cure from the heart of Scotland, instead of being selected from the sufferers residing near the metropolis. If the man would not submit to the operation, he was threatened to be deprived of his pension, and it would probably have been done but for the interference of the Commander-in-Chief, for the Duke of York always naturally took part with the unfortunate soldiers. The house ought never to forget the fact, that the engagement was to cure, and reduce the pension list; but he (Mr. Benet) insisted that no complete cure had been effected, though temporary relief might have been afforded, and no saving of the public money had been produced. Sir William Adams had no claim whatsoever to any new discovery; and if he had not, there was

no ground for his demand. Until he read those papers, he did not think it possible for any man to assert that Sir W. Adams had any such claim. He knew of no alteration he had made in the ordinary practice, except the introduction of a knife instead of a pair of scissors, and the application of some sort of blue ointment. Dr. Vetch, who appeared before the committee, had a right to claim the merit of the original invention, and yet not one word of voluntary compliment was used in favour of that ingenious and estimable person. Whatever acknowledgment had been made to him, was forced from his opponents by a division, he believed, of 13 to 8. Yet the practice introduced by Dr. Vetch was the practice of the present day. He hoped the committee would not be led astray by pompous lists of cures. In the medical phraseology, immediate relief from a disease was denominated "a cure," but the rational meaning of "a cure" was, when the person afflicted was restored to the same situation in which he was before the disease attacked him. In this sense, it was something strange that no cures had been performed by Sir W. Adams. No persons had been discharged as cured of blindness. They had indeed been cured of an inversion of the eye-lids, but that was a very different complaint. They were blind when they went into the establishment, and blind when they came out of it. It was most unfair for Sir W. Adams, or the noble lord (Palmerston), to state that Dr. Vetch could not make cures of that nature. Dr. Vetch published his book on this subject in 1810, and it was circulated amongst the heads of the profession. Sir W. Adams immediately gave up his new mode, and adopted that of Dr. Vetch, with this difference, that he used with a greater degree of severity that which was used by Dr. Vetch. Sir W. Adams denied the use of caustic. He stated that he only used certain substances of an astringent nature. Now he held in his hand Sir W. Adams's own instructions, and there it was distinctly stated that it should be used. (The hon. member here read an extract from the instructions.) The Commander-in-Chief, in his letter on the progress made by Sir W. Adams, specifically declared that nothing had been done by the new establishment, that no individuals had been cured who might not have received equal benefit elsewhere; and he went on to declare, that if the system were not altered, he would lay the whole of the proceedings before his Majesty. He (Mr. Bennet) had derived much information on this subject from the report made by the medical officers of Chelsea Hospital; and three years ago, when the army estimates were brought forward, he had offered some observations on this question. He thought at that time that the medical officers had made out a clear case, and, in his opinion, they acted with perfect propriety in what they had done. They had advanced the most cogent arguments in support of the objections adduced against the establishment of Sir W. Adams; and it was but fair to expect that those arguments, if fallacious, would have been met by authentic references to difficult cases in which the treatment had been perfectly successful. The noble lord, however, waited for no cases of that kind, but jumped to his conclusion at once. But what said the Commander-in-Chief on this subject? In his letter dated the 3d of July, 1820, and addressed to the noble lord, he said, "that, passing over the arguments against the necessity of the establishment, and the general character of Sir W. Adams's proceedings, he must declare not only that there was not sufficient ground for the assertions made by Sir W. Adams against the medical practice of the army, but that he assumed to himself credit for success in practice which was not borne out by facts; and that Sir W. Adams was not warranted in the unmerited reflections he had cast on the medical officers. Though he did not wish Sir. W. Adams to be deprived of a fair remuneration for his past services, he must persist in his opinion that an establishment, novel in its nature, separate from the army, and removed to a distance from those who wanted aid, was not calculated to operate beneficially. Setting aside the comparative success of the two modes of treatment, he must, as Commander-in-chief, and being, therefore most anxious for the discipline, credit, and character of the army, remonstrate against the tendency of an establishment in which so little regard was paid to those essential points." To what essential points? The health, credit, character, and discipline of the army. Was it possible for the head of any board to pass a severer censure on the principal of an establishment than was conveyed in this letter? The Commander-in-chief proceeded to say, that, if due attention were not paid to his representations, he would "cause the whole subject to be submitted to the consideration of His Majesty." In the next session of parliament, the question was brought forward, and the committee refused to sanction the claim. He thought that he had made out his case, beyond the reach of contradiction. The promise of Sir W. Adams had not been kept; no men had been restored to the service, and no pensions had been saved. Indeed, in 90 out of 100 out of 162 cases of assumed cures, the pension could not be taken from the men without manifest injustice because the eyes had received material damage. Sir W. Adams had made serious charges against the respectable gentlemen at the head of the medical board, for which charges, he would say, there was not a shadow of foundation. If those papers were printed, and read by the public, they would see that the Medical Board had strictly and rigidly done their duty, and no more. They did not interfere with those who were placed under Sir W. Adams.

They had reported on the cases of cure said to have been performed, and it would have been a scandalous breach of their duty, if they had not stated their opinion unreservedly. He, however, need say nothing in their favour. They were men of high character of honour, and of great medical skill. The character they sustained in society, and the emoluments which they derived from their profession, placed them above the reach of suspicion. Slurs and slanders had however, been abundantly cast on those gentlemen. Unwarrantable letters had made their appearance, reflecting on them as individuals unworthy of the character of gentlemen, and as being of no weight or value in their profession. These assertions were made behind their backs. Statements were published which were not true; and they were supported in the daily and weekly papers by lists of supposed cures at the ophthalmic establishment. He, however, need not enter into the defence of the Medical Board. The circular of the Commander-in-chief, addressed to Sir J. M'Gregor, was sufficiently indicative of their merits. The Commander-in-chief there said, "that though he would not enter into the merits of the dispute between the board and Sir W. Adams, it was equally due to Sir J. Macgregor, and the other medical officers concerned, to state, that in every transaction which came under his knowledge, their conduct appeared to be influenced by a zealous and commendable anxiety for the good of the service in general; and he was satisfied that no charge was ever more unfounded, or less deserved by the medical officers, than the charge of their having entered into a conspiracy against Sir W. Adams." That charge had, however, been made in twopenny pamphlets, and two-and-six penny books. They had answered it by making out a case that could not be refuted. To Sir W. Adams he was willing to allow a fair compensation for his past services at the establishment: but the sum now proposed was, he thought, too much. The house must be aware that when a vacancy occurred in the establishment at any of the hospitals, those who had votes were almost wearied out of their lives by the application of persons canvassing for the appointment. Persons who held such situation must devote their time and labour to them. But to counterbalance that there was the advantage of having your name generally known. When the noble lord talked of loss of time, he ought to recollect, that, to have his name at the head of this establishment, must have been worth thousands to Sir W. Adams. There was not, he was confident a company in the Guards that would sell for so much as the privilege of the being at the head of the ophthalmic hospital, if the noble lord renewed it again. The question, then, was—at what rate was Sir Wm. Adams to be paid? He would recommend the scale on which the head of the establishment at Chatham (where the trouble was the same, where the number of patients was the same, and from which as many individuals had been discharged as from the ophthalmic hospital) to be adopted in remunerating Sir William Adams. Having read all the documents, he would not grant a single farthing more than 2,000l. The word now, which was contained in the report, appeared to the friends and adherents of Sir W. Adams as conclusive in this favour. The words were "the best mode of treating ophthalmia is now well known in all parts of the country." And so it ought: for, between 1805 and 1812, various experiments were tried, and various works published on the subject. The discovery of the best mode of treatment was not a matter of sudden occurrence: it was the result of progressive improvement. There was no royal road, it was said, to the mathematics, neither was there any short cut to the most efficient treatment of ophthalmia. The improvement went on step by step, as the profession applied themselves to the subject; and lectures were given on the cure of ophthalmia in 1810, 1811, and 1812. This course was sure to succeed. He could not conceive why the system of Sir W. Adams had been taken up so warmly by the noble lord. They must all recollect a Mr. Perkins, who professed to cure every disease by the application of metallic tractors. As the army were so much troubled with rheumatism, for which the tractors were a sovereign remedy, it was surprising that they had not been adopted by the War-office. But it was found that wooden tractors, coloured like metal, produced as much effect as the originals, and thus the boasted discovery was scouted. Now, he was convinced, that if these tractors had been introduced to the army, they would not have done the thousandth part of the mischief that had been occasioned by the noble lord's recommendation and support of the new mode of cure. He conceived he had proved, that the terms proposed by Sir W. Adams had not been complied with—that no pensions had been reduced—that no man had been cured—that no discovery had been made by him. The hon. gentleman concluded by moving—"That 2,000l. should be substituted instead of 4,000l."

Mr. W. PEEL supported the original motion.

Mr. J. DAWSON said, if they stripped this question of all connection with the Army Medical Board, the house would, he believed, come to precisely the same opinion which was held by his noble friend. The honourable gentleman (Mr. Bennet), not satisfied with the discussion before the committee, introduced the ophthalmic controversy, typhus fever, and the metallic tractors. By these means he diverted the attention of the house from the real subject. He certainly required too much

of gentlemen, when he asked them to read a folio volume of documents which contained as many contradictions as pages. He thought the interests of science would not be benefitted by the publication of those documents, which did not consist of well digested opinions, but were filled with personal cavils, and the violent assertions of contending parties. The hon. gentleman then adverted to the heats and animosities which were exhibited during the sitting of the committee, but paid a very high compliment to the demeanour and talents of Dr. Guthrie, who conducted the case for the Medical Board, whom he described as one of the ablest men he had ever known, and lamented that he had employed his great abilities on so trifling a subject. He could not help observing that the honourable member (Mr. Bennet), instead of acting like an impartial judge, conducted himself like a counsellor towards one of the parties. That honourable gentleman and the honourable member for Tavistock appeared to be nominees for the Medical Board. The quarrels between nations and empires were never carried on with half the ferocity which distinguished the quarrels of bigots and authors. But of all the quarrels that had ever occurred between men of science there was not one that displayed more ill feeling than that which distinguished the dispute between the Medical Board and Sir William Adams. The dispute mentioned in Gulliver between the Bigendians and the Littleendians was not more violent, and he believed the occasion was of equal of importance. Sir W. Adams stated, that the merit of the original discovery was not due to him, as he had only improved the system which he had learned from Mr. Saunders. He gave notice, that he was in possession of a mode, the adoption of which had a manifest tendency to remove the ophthalmic disease. He looked for the disease, not in the eyeball, but in the eyelid. By removing the granulations or excrescences on the surface of the eyelid, he removed that which, if suffered to remain, would subsequently produce blindness. He (Mr. Dawson) admitted, that Dr. Vetch's claim to approbation, though not to reward, was superior to that of Sir William Adams. It appeared from the report, that in 1809, Dr. Vetch inverted the eyelid, and looked for granulations. From that period to this, such was the invariable practice; and that practice had been adopted by Sir Wm. Adams as the most effectual mode of treatment. Dr. Vetch was asked, whether he knew the mode of treating granulations as early as Sir William Adams, and he said yes. He was asked whether he had stated his knowledge to any one? He answered, that in conversation he had pointed out the disease to the late inspector-general and director-general of hospitals, and in each instance pressed the subject on the attention of the Medical Board; but he was not asked by them to make any communication, and when he did make a communication, he received no encouragement. It thus appeared, that Dr. Vetch was not invited to make public his system. Now, the circumstances of the Medical Board having overlooked Dr. Vetch was the ground which supported the claim of Sir W. Adams. When Sir W. Adams made his proposition, he was opposed by a numerous party. He, however, persevered and thus excited a degree of hostility which appeared to be interminable. His (Mr. Dawson's) noble friend, aware of the circumstance, saw the necessity of giving a fair trial to the new system, by forming an establishment for the cure of ophthalmia. In 1808, the ophthalmia had increased to an alarming extent. Application was made on the subject to Mr. Keats, the surgeon-general. In his report he stated the prevalence of the disease in its most fearful shape, pointed out a method of treatment and recommended the formation of an ophthalmic establishment. It did not, however, appear that any establishment was formed. At that time Sir W. Adams, who had finished his education under Mr. Saunders, a very celebrated oculist applied to have a certain number of soldiers intrusted to his care. Two experiments were made, and as they partially failed, it created a doubt of the efficacy of the system. In 1813, the subject was referred to a certain number of civil practitioners, in order that the new mode should have a fair trial, and that the partiality said to exist in the Army Medical Board might be obviated. Sir H. Halford, Mr. Cline, Mr. Abernathy, and other eminent practitioners, were appointed to investigate the subjects. Sir William Adams consented to take ten of the worst cases of ophthalmia under his management. Nothing could be more favourable than the opinion of those illustrious individuals of the efficacy, value and success of Sir William Adams's course of practice, with perhaps the exception of one who cast some doubt upon it. It had been asked, where were the proofs of Sir William Adams's success? They were numerous and decisive. Dillo had been almost blind, but had so far recovered, that he was refused a pension. Sergeant Parsons, of the 40th regiment, had been declared incurable. He had been one of the ten selected. In a few months he was restored from blindness to perfect sight. There were many other cases of the same kind. These service entitled Sir Wm. Adams to the reward now proposed. It was not a reward for invention, but for services in the hospital. But it was objected, if his service were so valuable, why was the hospital given up? His answer was, that it had been conducted on a wrong principle. A civil commissioner had been placed at its head, and army surgeons had been placed under him. Their

esprit du corps made them inattentive, if not adverse, to Sir William Adams. He would most cheerfully vote for this grant, believing it to be fully merited.

Mr. C. HUTCHINSON said, that the object of the committee which had been appointed had been to inquire into the merits of Sir W. Adams, but that his hon. friend (Mr. Bennet) had prevailed on the committee to admit a third party, which prevented Sir William Adams from obtaining the great success which he could not otherwise have missed. The Medical Board had been most hostile to Sir William Adams's claims. He (Mr. C. Hutchinson) was confident that a conspiracy had been formed against Sir W. Adams. He had been greatly injured by having been promoted to the head of the hospital. His peace of mind had been destroyed by it. The envy and hatred of the medical profession against one of their number, who became eminently successful, was proverbial. The case of Dr. Sydenham was a remarkable instance.—*Nulla invidia quibus medicorum et mendicorum.*

Mr. HUME said, that if Sir W. Adams laid no claim to invention, as stated by the hon. gentleman opposite, he did not know how he could be classed with those who were victims of persecution for their inventions. He had read all the evidence before the committee, and papers which had been sent to him by friends of Sir William Adams, and he was ready to admit that there had been much professional party feeling on both sides. Sir William Adams had not always disclaimed the merit of invention. He had been driven from invention to superiority of practice, and from superiority of practice to the ground now taken—that of services only. His hon. friend the member for Shrewsbury had expressed a willingness to pay him for his labour. But the demand was too high. The medical superintendent of a medical establishment at Chatham, where there had been 594 patients, received only one guinea a day. His hon. friend who had spoken last had said that Sir W. Adams was the victim of conspiracy and persecution. He (Mr. Hume) believed there had been faults on both sides. If an individual set up for particular eminence, and cast reflections upon others, he must be content to have reflections cast upon him in his turn. It was not the same medical board that was always opposed to Sir W. Adams. Two medical boards persecuted him, if it was a persecution, and they did so because he had slighted them. The noble lord (Palmerston) was the firebrand who had cast the flames of discord between them, by appointing a civilian to superintend a military hospital. His honourable friend (Mr. Bennet) was conscientiously convinced that Sir W. Adams did not deserve this money, and he therefore did but his duty in opposing the grant. He (Mr. Hume) was almost ready to vote the whole money in order to get rid of the subject. Sir William Adams had now more credit than if he had never been appointed to the hospital. If his hon. friend should press his amendment to a division, he would certainly support it.

Mr. DAWSON said he had never said there had been a conspiracy.

Lord PALMERSTON regretted that the hon. member for Shrewsbury had gone into long details on a question where they were not necessary, and where their only effect would be to add fuel to the flame. Whether there was a conspiracy or not, he knew not; but no man had ever been more the object of determined and rancorous persecution than Sir. W. Adams. He had never witnessed more professional hatred than appeared on the part of some who had given evidence before the committee. That had been his reason for objecting to print the minutes. Sir. W. Adams had never claimed the merit of a discovery, but always professed to have derived his knowledge from his master, Mr. Saunders. He had never talked of secrets. From the first he had declared that his knowledge had been derived from Mr. Saunders, and that it was of this nature. Inflammation of the ophthalmia left a roughness on the inside of the eyes which often caused a relapse, and produced pain and blindness. The existence of this granulation, for that was the professional term, was the first part of the knowledge he professed; the next was, that this granulation could be cured. It was of minor consideration by what means the granulation could be removed. The noble lord went on to defend the conduct of Sir Wm. Adams. The man who had been turned out of the hospital had been so treated on account of misconduct and insubordination. The attacks made by Sir William Adams upon the army Medical Board had been provoked by attacks made upon him; and certainly nothing had been said by Sir. William Adams, stronger than that which had been stated by Dr. Vetch. The sum proposed to be voted (4,600L) was far from being excessive remuneration to a man of Sir Wm. Adams's professional standing and celebrity.

Mr. H. G. BENNET declared that none of the cases brought before the committee had amounted to cure.

After a few words from Lord PALMERSTON, Mr. HUME, and Mr. DAWSON, the amendment was negatived without a division. The original resolution was then put and carried; and the house having resumed, the report was ordered to be received to-morrow.

ANCIENT HISTORIES.

The order of the day being read for the house to resolve itself into a committee upon the address for publishing the ancient histories of the country.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER rose, and expatiated at some length upon the advantages likely to arise out of such a measure. After advertizing to the imperfect state of our existing historical records, and to the causes which prevented their being fully attended to by private individuals, the right honourable gentleman moved, that an humble address be presented to His Majesty, representing the defective state of the ancient history of the kingdom, and suggesting that an edition published under royal authority, would be most honourable to his reign, and most useful in furthering the general dissemination of knowledge; further praying directions for the publication of such an edition, assuring His Majesty that Parliament would provide for the expence.

Sir JAMES MACKINTOSH felt great satisfaction in seconding the motion, and considered the work proposed to be one of the very highest utility. Generally speaking, the Government of England was a little in arrear as to its patronage of literature; but it was highly creditable to the state of society in this country, that we saw works got up here by individual undertaking which in other countries would have required the assistance of the legislature. With respect to the work in question, however, there were a variety of causes—the great capital required—the great devotion of time—the limited extent of probable sale—and certain laws which pressed heavily upon the publication of expensive works, which were likely to prevent its being performed by individual speculation. Whatever vigilance it might be thought necessary to exercise, in order to prevent the money voted from being extravagantly or improperly applied, no one could dissent from the principle of the measure proposed. Sir James Mackintosh concluded by mentioning Dr. Petrie, keeper of the records at the Tower, as an individual well qualified, by a life of study, to perform the work in question.

Mr. HUME did not object to the measure, but he hoped that the work would not turn out as the institution of the Irish Record Office had done. More than 70,000*l.* had been paid by the public to that establishment, and the result obtained was very trifling indeed. He should recommend, with respect to the work now proposed, the presenting of an annual report to Parliament; and he should be happy to have some explanation at the convenience of the hon. secretary for Ireland, of the state of the Irish Record Office at the present time.

Mr. GOULBURN said that the matter was under consideration. It should be remembered, however, that if the yet proceeds obtained had been small, the work was of a most laborious and intricate description.

Mr. HUDSON GURNEY supported the measure. He should consider it a source of national congratulation that a work of this nature should be commenced during the life time of a man who was so eminently qualified to aid and assist it as the gentleman whose name had been mentioned.

Mr. H. G. BENNET said he never gave a vote in his life with more satisfaction than the present, but he should protest against the work being conducted on too expensive a scale. He would wish to see it a work of general utility, and one which, devoid of unnecessary splendour, might find easy circulation.

Mr. C. W. WYNN said he did not wish for any unnecessary splendour, but still the work should be published in a manner worthy of their character. With respect to the works published by the record committee, he would say they were not conducted on too expensive a scale, but in order to get them into one volume that was made too large.

Mr. BRIGHT hoped the ancient works would be published at full length.

Mr. C. W. WYNN said, that in many of the Monkish writers very large extracts were given from works which it would be necessary also to republish, and it would be unnecessary to repeat those extracts.

Mr. BRIGHT still thought it would be better to give the works as in the originals.

The Resolution was then agreed to, and the house having resumed, the report was ordered to be received to-morrow.

SUPERANNUATION ACT AMENDMENT BILL.

On the motion of the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER, the house resolved, itself into a committee on this bill.

The right hon. gent. then stated, that it was his intention to move an amendment to the retrospective clause which made the bill operative from January last. He should propose that the bill have effect the present month of July.

Mr. CALCRAFT said he would not now state his objections to the general principle of the bill, but he had an objection to the clause which enforced contributions from the smaller offices.

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. HUME objected to the period of service being limited to 10 years. He thought 15 years' service would not be too long before the parties became entitled to superannuation.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER said it was only intended that the Treasury should have the power of superannuating at the end of 10 years, in case of ill health.

On that clause being read which fixed the income of 50*l.* per. ann. as that at which contributions should commence,

Mr. CALCRAFT said that this was entirely too low a scale, and suggested that none who held offices under the value of 100*l.* a year should be liable to contribution; but that from 100*l.* to 200*l.* a year the contribution should be 2*1/2* per cent., and all over that at 5 per cent.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER said that he had made the lowest scale at 50*l.* but he had no objection to adopt the suggestion of the honourable member.

On the proposition of the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER, the proposed alterations were agreed to.

The other clauses were then agreed to. The house resumed, and the report was ordered to be received tomorrow.

LOTTERY BILL.

On the third reading of this bill, a division took place, when the numbers were—

For it.....32 | Against it.....11 | Majority.....21.

The bill was then read a third time, and passed.—Adjourned at 12 o'clock.

Poor Byrne.

Copy of a Letter from a Gentleman of high rank and character in Dublin, to his Friend in London.

Dublin, Sept. 1, 1822.
Byrne came here this morning with your letter of the 26th ult. he tells me it is his intention to leave this country for London, with tomorrow's mail; you will receive information from him, which will answer your queries. But this much I will say; that after the matter was first broached, which I understand was as follows, he never attempted to extort money to conceal the base attempt. He had left Mr. Jocelyn's (the Bishop's brother) after having lived with him nearly two years, on some disagreement with a fellow servant; thinking his master had not done him justice, he was referred to Mr. Jocelyn's agent for his wages and his discharge, the latter of which was in such terms as would entirely prevent his getting into another place. The rencontre with the Bishop was, as I understand, in the interim, and he does not appear to have spoken of it until then, when he complained that "another sort of discharge would be a trifling favour to a person, who had it in his power to take the Mitre off his Brother's Carriage." This expression having been repeated, seems to have occasioned his being brought before the Lord Mayor, without which, the disclosure of that affair might have slept with others of the same nature; as Byrne thinks he can prove, and will inform you of. He (Byrne) still insists, that one of Leonard's letters would, if produced on his trial, have vindicated him, *by proving offers made to him.* I own the punishment of a Magistrate who could be guilty of such perverseness of justice as to withdraw from the accused his means of justification, would give me more satisfaction than the exposure of a score of suspected miscreants, the spray of whose crimes unfortunately lights on those (in a certain degree) who are connected with the man, but abhor his vices. Byrne tells me, a person who gave evidence on his trial * * * * is now with the Bishop by another name, and is the person to whom he (the Bishop) wrote the note from the watchhouse, addressed to Waring.

— I am, Sir, your's sincerely.

Voice from St. Helena.—On the very week before his death, the Marquis of Londonderry's solicitor had called three times upon Messrs. Simpkin and Marshall, the publisher of O'Meara's *Voice from St. Helena*, to demand that Mr. O'Meara should be delivered up to him for prosecution! Mr. O'Meara desired to be instantly surrendered, and even retained counsel. The passage at which his Lordship took offence is contained in the second volume, page 228, relative to the fortune of Marie Louise. His Lordship had declared his intention of proceeding by *information*, a mode which deprives the accused of the benefit of a grand jury.—The following is the passage alluded to:—"While looking over a number of papers (chiefly Portsmouth) he observed an article stating that * * * had made large purchases in the north of Ireland. "Ah," said Napoleon, "some of my money has gone to pay for those estates. After the abdication at Fontainbleau, upwards of forty millions of francs, my private property, were seized and taken from my treasurer near Orleans. Of this money, about five and twenty millions were divided amongst T * * *, M * * *, H * * *, and C * * *. The money thus seized included the marriage portion of the Empress Marie Louise, which had been paid in sovereigns of gold, an old German coin. The remainder was placed in the French treasury. The whole of these sums had been guaranteed to me by the treaty of Fontainbleau. The share which C * * * obtained was very large, and the exact amount of it is known to me."

ASIATIC DEPARTMENT.

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Entertainment at Dum-Dum.

[Among the Papers left to our charge by the late Editor of the JOURNAL, we find the following account of an Entertainment given by the Officers of the Honorable Company's Artillery, to Colonel Young, previous to his departure for Europe. Motives of delicacy might perhaps have restrained our Predecessor from giving it insertion; but, as his enemies having now gained their object, its publication can no longer rouse their malignant passions, we give it exactly in his own words: and we believe it will be read by many, with feelings of a melancholy kind. When they reflect, that of three distinguished characters who would be ornaments to any Society that have left India in the short period of two months, two were present on this occasion, while the noble virtues of the third yet glowed in cordial remembrance, they can hardly help viewing themselves as surviving a bright period in Indian History. However, let us not despair in the temporary gloom of a passing cloud, but hope that the stars which have left us to shine in another hemisphere, will yet rise again in ours with renewed lustre.—ED.]

A Public Entertainment, consisting of a Dinner, Ball, and Supper, was given on Monday the 13th instant, (Jan.) by the Officers of the Honorable Company's Artillery, to Colonel YOUNG, who, most of our readers know, was formerly an Officer of that distinguished Corps. The Company met at the Mess-Room of the Cantonment, at half past 6 o'clock, and formed a brilliant assemblage of rank and beauty, which must have been highly gratifying to the feelings of the Gentleman whom they were invited to meet. An excellent Dinner was served, abounding in all the delicacies of the season, and the admirable Band of the Regiment playing a very tasteful selection of Music from the first Composers—heightened the pleasures of the repast.

When the cloth was removed, the President for the Evening, Major SWINEY, gave successively the Toasts of "THE KING," "THE HONORABLE THE GOVERNOR GENERAL," and "HIS EXCELLENCY THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF;" which were drunk with the most unequivocal marks of loyalty and respect,—after which, he rose to propose the health of the Gentleman in whose honor the Entertainment was given.

In performing this part of his duty, we understood him to say, and indeed his manner sufficiently indicated the fact, he laboured under considerable embarrassment. Those who knew the peculiar circumstances under which he was placed, would not be surprised at it, and to those who did not, it would be sufficient for him to observe that the Gentleman of whom we were now to take leave, was the oldest friend he had in India—perhaps in the world. They were reared at the same school, nurtured in the same principles, trained in the same camp, and had for twenty years, with little interruption, frequented the same society. Colonel YOUNG's public life, continued the President, was so intimately associated with the History of the first part of Lord Hastings's Administration, that it could scarcely be necessary for him to call the circumstances of it to the recollection of any person present:—they would all long since have formed their own opinion, and it only remained for him to say that he had watched the progress of his friend, not only with the partial eye of friendship, but with an anxious and jealous solicitude for a reputation which even in early life was too high to be viewed with indifference, and that it was therefore but justice to his friend to state that he had never known him forsaken by that kindness and suavity of manner for which he had ever been remarkable, nor for an instant forgetful of those high principles of integrity and honor for which he had been no less distinguished. The President said this with an emotion that rather increased as he attempted to proceed, and after making a considerable pause, begged he might be allowed to conclude by proposing the health of COLONEL YOUNG, a happy voyage to Europe, and a speedy return to resume his station in this society. It is almost needless to say that this Toast was received with the most marked and unanimous applause: the Band of the Regiment marched round the table playing an appropriate air, and the moment was one of those, the feelings of which the pen is quite inadequate to describe.

When the plaudits of the company had subsided, COLONEL YOUNG rose to return thanks; he was evidently experiencing the keenest emotions, and the company heartily sympathised with him in his earnest appeal to them, when he said, "If my Friend's embarrassment was so great as entirely to overcome him; what must be mine in replying to such warm commendations, and from such a quarter. He went on to state his deep and heartfelt gratitude to the Corps of Artillery of which he was once a member, for their uniform kindness to him, and the approbation of his noble conduct, which they had seen a second time expressed. He alluded, elegantly and feelingly, to a former Entertainment of the same kind, and stated that although it did not become him to speak of his public conduct, and although he had retired into private life, yet the favourable testimony of men, whom he so highly valued could not but be gratifying to him, and when it was given to him on the spot where he had passed some of the happiest moments of his life, the sentiments which these circumstances were calculated to excite, became too powerful for expression. He said he earnestly desired to embody these feelings in the form of a Toast; but to give "The Corps of Artillery," would be to call upon them to toast themselves: he should therefore take advantage of the absence of the commandant, and propose the health of the worthy Head of the Regiment, MAJOR GENERAL HARDWICK. This Address was received with the greatest marks of enthusiasm, as the company in general, and every Officer of the Corps in particular, seemed to look upon it as doing equal honour to the judgment and the feeling that dictated it.

The President now rose, and said: before the Ladies retire, he had one more Toast to propose, and he trusted the Ladies themselves would be the first to do honour to it. "Our duty, said he, is not half performed when we drink COLONEL YOUNG's health and a quick voyage: For those blessings will be valueless if he has not a happy meeting with his wife and family; I beg, therefore, to propose the health of Mrs. Young." This toast, was received with as warm marks of kindness and good humour as the former. Col. Young expressed a very neat and appropriate acknowledgement for this new compliment, and shortly after the Ladies left the table.

The Gentlemen now drew their chairs nearer together, and the conviviality of the Meeting went on with uninterrupted glee and good humour. "The Ladies" were toasted with the utmost tokens of devotion to the Sex; after which, the President gave "GENERAL DALZEL and the Guests who have this night honoured us with their company." This toast was received with the warmest approbation, and the General immediately rose, and in a fine commanding tone of voice shortly returned thanks in a very elegant and complimentary speech, which he concluded with giving "the Officers of the Bengal Artillery."

The next health proposed, if we recollect aright, was "CAPTAIN ROLFE," who was designated in a short address as the person to whose acknowledged nautical skill and amiable private qualities, Col. Young and his party were to be indebted for the safety and comfort of their voyage to England.

The President then rose, and expressed himself nearly in the following terms, as well as we could collect.

"Gentlemen, we must not forget that a Dance forms part of this evening's Entertainment:—many a "fluttering heart," and many a "fantastic toe," are now impatiently anticipating the pleasures of the Ball in the adjoining room. But before we proceed to join them, I have one more toast to propose, a Farewell Toast, in which I am sure you will all join with pleasure. Gentlemen, in drinking the health of COLONEL YOUNG, as we have done, it is impossible for us not to recur to that period of Lord HASTINGS's Administration, in which my friend was so intimately associated; nor can we look back upon that period without sentiments of the deepest gratitude. Gentlemen, that portion of His Lordship's Administration which I now refer to, will ever be considered as one of the brightest of the history of this country. It was a period distinguished for magnanimity and liberality at the head of the Government, and for an enthusiastic admiration;

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of all that was good and useful, and honourable to the national character in every subordinate department. One general feeling pervaded all ranks of society, and was acted upon by every public functionary. Gentlemen, we cannot look back upon this bright vision without a mingled feeling of regret and admiration; let us, therefore, in gratitude to the eminent personage, who created it, now that he has left us,—drink his health—a pleasant voyage and a long and happy life to him.

“THE MOST NOBLE THE MARQUIS OF HASTINGS.”

This Toast was received with bursts of the most vivid marks of approbation, drunk amidst the reiterated applause of the whole company.

After this, the party retired to the Ladies assembled in the Library of the Mess-House, where Tea and Coffee were served, preparatory to the whole company repairing to the Ball-Room, where alternate Country Dances and Quadrilles prolonged the festivities of the evening with great spirit till midnight, when the company sat down to an elegant Supper, after which, they again repaired to the Ball-Room, and it was not till two in the morning that they finally separated.

We have, we trust, said enough to shew the gentlemanly and temperate feeling, which formed the principal characteristic of this highly agreeable Entertainment; and it only remains for us to say, that we have seldom known so extensive a course of festivity carried through with so much good humour and unanimity, as the very elegant party, of which we have here attempted to give as accurate an account as our memory will admit.

New Asiatic Journal.

To the (late) Editor of the Journal.

Sir,

I beg you will put me down in your list of Subscribers for your proposed publication, the “NEW ASIATIC JOURNAL,” and be so good as have my copy addressed to me, care of Messrs. James Scott and Co. Calcutta.

You may henceforward reckon me in the number of your sincere friends; for though a silent, I have not been an indifferent observer, of your conduct and principles. Long may you have health and ability to continue the career you have hitherto so nobly sustained, till your patriotic exertions are crowned with that consummation for which every honest Briton must devoutly wish. May the Talent and Spirit you have evinced in the noblest cause to which the human intellect can be devoted, continue to animate your exertions, to the lasting shame and confusion of your Enemies, Slanderers and Detractors; and may the “mensconscienti” continue to be your’s, a reward that even Princes in their profusion cannot bestow; and which, amidst all the trammelled dignities of office, and absurd “pride of place” of your opponents, cannot be their boast. The applause of all unsophisticated good men, will also be your’s, —their’s, the capricious smile of some would-be great men of ephemeral dignity and imaginary importance.

With many others, I shall look anxiously for accounts of your arrival and exertions in England, and should I be assured that you will remain there for some time, I may perhaps furnish you with some curious particulars of an * * * * * * * * to which I also have had the honor to address myself, on a subject of vital importance to many, but as yet without success. For the present, this is enough; and if my name,—after the experience of sixteen years, during which I have seen the good and evil of the wise and foolish laws,—can aid your cause, make use of it; for it is my real opinion, founded on long and deliberate observation and reflection, that a Free Press, under the wholesome control of British Law only, will tend more to have India wisely and equitably governed, than all the regulations that can be created in Calcutta or enacted in London. Wishing you all the health, prosperity and success that you can possibly desire,

I am, Sir, Your sincere well-wisher.

JUSTUS.

Public Sentiment.

Sir,

To the (late) Editor of the Journal.

I cannot express the surprise I felt on perusing that part of your Paper of the 14th instant, wherein you state your having been ordered to quit India:—*Banishment* is a term to which Englishmen are so unused, that I choose to substitute another word in lieu of it.

I am sorry the measure has been adopted for two reasons—first, on your own account, because I look upon you as being a much injured man—and secondly, but without meaning the least disrespect, I am sorry that the Government should have been prevailed upon to adopt so harsh a proceeding; and I look upon it, there has been no act during the many years, it has been my ill-luck to pass in this foreign clime, which will be so much regretted as this. Be assured, it will not lessen you in the estimation of, by far, the major part of the British Community in India:—You will carry with you their best wishes, and they will look upon the measure with as much silent regret, as they will view with *silent indignation* the conduct of your sycophantic opponents and base traducers. I do not envy them their victory: let them enjoy it if their consciences will permit them to do so. That it should have been sanctioned, I deeply regret, and more than this, I probably may not be permitted to express; but looking forward to better days, for future *unrestricted* productions from your able pen, and with every good wish for your health and prosperity,

I am, Sir, your obedient Servant,

February 23, 1823.

A. B. C.

Note.—We have selected the above from the many of the same kind that daily reach us, as giving, in temperate language and within as small compass, what is notoriously the private sentiment of more than nine-tenths of the Community.—*Ed.*

Steam Boat.

To the Editor of the Journal.

Sir,

There are some men, who endeavour to exalt their own abilities, by depreciating those of others, and study to ridicule the merits of scientific men. I cannot avoid smiling at the notions of these men, whose weakness leads them into the absurdity of dictating to those of superior capacity.

I have been induced to make these observations in consequence of some insinuations that have been thrown out, respecting the model, &c. of the Steam Boat, building at Messrs. Kyds and Co.’s Kidderpore, under the superintendance of a Gentleman of acknowledged skill, and under the auspices of the Merchants of Calcutta, who have so laudably and so generously come forward to promote an undertaking so important to the Commercial interests of this City.

There is a prevailing objection to her length, the mode of her fastenings, and of the power that is to propel her. A Gentleman has cast forth these objections, which are calculated to injure one of the parties concerned. It is this Gentleman’s opinion, that a vessel of her length ought to have two 80-horse Engines to be of any service to her, let me ask him simply if he knows the weight of two such Engines? if he did, he would not have proposed so great a power; and furthermore I would ask him, if a vessel already built, be placed in his hands, could he calculate the power that would be required to propel her to a given distance in a given length of time? and could he, if the Machinery were given him, fix the whole in a workman-like manner? if not, his opinions and objections can have no weight.

I have only further to add, that if it be necessary, I am ready to meet every objection that can be made to the plan of the Steam-Boat, and to defend the superior abilities of my friend Mr. Anderson against all attacks.

Your’s, &c.

February 26, 1823.

SELM.

Thursday, March 6, 1823

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Meteorology for February.**Barometer:** highest, 30.16—lowest, 29.80.**Thermometer:** *within*, highest, $82\frac{1}{2}$ °—lowest, $62\frac{1}{2}$ °—range, $20\frac{1}{2}$ °—*without*, highest, 85°—*in the sun*, 96°—*on the grass*, 52°. An air Thermometer rose $12\frac{1}{2}$ inches on the 6th.

Rainy days, 3—rain water collected, 1½ inch—Evaporation about 5½ inches. Thunder, 2 days—North-wester, on the 28th. Winds, variable: often Northerly in the morning, and Southerly in the day.—Mornings, cloudy or foggy; but 2 or 3 days at the latter end, very clear. Some fogs very thick.

February 1823.—Thermometer: *within*, highest, 82°—lowest, 65°—range, 17°—rain, 2 days—thunder, 1.

Several Natives say, that they did not feel the cold of the last season so much as they did two or three years ago. The Thermometer in the morning was four degrees lower in January 1823 than in January 1822.

Chowringhee, March 3, 1823.

A. B.

Indo-British Academy.**GENTLEMEN,** (Circular.)

As Parents, Guardians, and Friends to our projected School, both of which proprietary right and efficient management will be in our own hands; the favor of your attendance is particularly requested at a Meeting to be holden at my house, No. 25, South Colingah Street, on Saturday next the 1st proximo, at 7 o'clock in the evening. Of this Meeting, both the time and place have been determined on by a majority of Friends.

On so interesting an occasion, when we are to engage in the first preliminaries of a work, the beneficial effects of which will flow down to our Children's Children, it is needless for me to express any hope as to a full Meeting. On this point, the best feelings of the individuals now addressed, furnish the most ample pledge.

I am, Gentlemen, Your obedient and faithful Servant,

Calcutta, Feb. 25, 1823.

JOHN W. RICKETTS.

At a Meeting of Parents, Guardians, and Friends, holden at the house of Mr. J. W. Ricketts, in South Colingah Street, Saturday evening, the 1st March, 1823:

IT WAS RESOLVED,

1.—That we form ourselves into a Society to promote the Education of our Children, by projecting an Institution which shall be managed by a Committee, chosen from among the general body of Parents, Guardians, and Friends.

2.—That it be designated "The Parental-Academic-Institution," as indicative of its peculiar origin.

3.—That the following Gentlemen be chosen on the Committee of Management for the ensuing year; seven of whom to form a Quorum for the transaction of business; viz. Messrs. J. L. Bianey, E. Brighton, W. DaCosta, R. Frith, J. L. Heately, C. Hudson, M. Johnston, C. Kerr, R. Kerr, J. Kyd, J. F. Sandys, T. B. Scott, and P. Sutherland.

4.—That the Committee of Managers be requested to make arrangements, without delay, for the commencement of operations; and to frame a Code of Rules and Regulations.

5.—That Mr. J. W. Ricketts be appointed Secretary to the Institution for the ensuing year.

6.—That Messrs. Alexander and Co. be requested to accept the office of Treasurers to the Institution.

7.—That an Annual Meeting of Parents, Guardians, and Friends to the Institution, be holden on such day, and at such time and place, as may hereafter be determined upon; when the Accounts of the Society will be laid before them, a Report of the Proceedings read, and a Committee of Managers elected for the ensuing year.

8.—That, in conformity with the suggestion of Friends engaged in the undertaking, a Book of Donations be opened for the reception of the names of those who may be disposed to render pecuniary support to the Institution.

9.—That the Institution shall be open for the admission of every Child, whose Parents, Guardians, or Friends may be willing to conform to the Rules and Regulations of the Society.

10.—That any five Members of the Committee, be empowered to call a General Meeting, whenever they may deem it expedient to do so.

JOHN W. RICKETTS, Sec. P. A. I.

Donations to the Parental-Academic-Institution.

| <i>Names of Donors.</i> | <i>Amount.</i> | <i>Names of Donors.</i> | <i>Amount.</i> |
|-------------------------|----------------|-------------------------|----------------|
| Baulie, J. | 10 | Kerr, C. | 50 |
| Bartlett, Abel | 100 | Kerr, R. | 75 |
| Bartlett, T. | 100 | Kyd, J. | 500 |
| Black, Andrew | 100 | Mercado, J. | 25 |
| Bianey, J. L. | 50 | Palmer, H. | 10 |
| Byrn, W. | 100 | Payne, J. jun. | 30 |
| Cockburn, M. | 100 | Pereira, P. | 10 |
| Cornelius, H. | 50 | Perroux, A. | 50 |
| DaCosta, W. | 500 | Perroux, J. | 100 |
| Elias, J. | 8 | Reed, Charles. | 500 |
| Fraser, W. | 5 | Ricketts, J. W. | 100 |
| Frith, Robert | 200 | Rymer, W. C. | 10 |
| Heately, J. L. | 100 | Sandsford, G. | 100 |
| Henry, J. | 25 | Sandys, J. F. | 100 |
| Hill, J. | 50 | Sturmer, W. | 20 |
| Hudson, C. | 100 | Sutherland, P. | 100 |
| Jacobs, James | 32 | Swaine, W. A. | 32 |
| Jones, C. J. | 20 | Wilson, P. | 25 |
| Kellner, F. D. | 32 | Wood, James | 32 |

JOHN W. RICKETTS, Sec. P. A. I.

Education.*To the Editor of the Journal.*

Sir,

I understand that a Meeting of a body of Indo-Britons took place a day or two ago, at Chowringhee, for the sole purpose of Planning an Institution for the better Education of the youth of all classes of the community. If I am so far correct, I must applaud in the first instance, such of those who have projected this Institution; for, as reports go, the Rules and Regulations which are to be observed, and the principles on which it will be conducted, are of that nature, that it is morally impossible it should fail to answer the ends for which it is intended. When I come to consider of the Seminaries already in Calcutta, all founded for the principal purpose of attaining a fortune—and do we not daily see this?—is it any thing surprizing, to be frequently told of the defective education generally received; the consequence has been, that Parents have been obliged to send their Children to Europe, at an enormous expence. It has often been remarked, that in a large School of a hundred or more Boys, the person at the head of it mixes too much in Company day and night, and leaves his important charge too often to Teachers of slender abilities; when I say, this actually exists, more or less, how, in the name of wonder, can the Boys be proficient at all? We have witnessed on a day of Examination a good hand-writing, a little smattering of the Latin, and of Grammar, and reading too,—all taught for the occasion, as a set off; but when we come to converse with any of them upon subjects connected with it, alas! how miserably deficient are they.

A new era seems to be produced by the writings which bore on the question of Indo-British education. People now see the necessity of an Institution, which would give Education in all its branches, and at a less charge than the established rates of Calcutta; because it will be fixed not with any motive to profit. It is to do away with the idea prevalent in India, that a Boy

brought up here cannot be well educated. I trust, Sir, you will as soon as circumstances admit, render us an account of every thing touching the Institution, in question. While I am writing this, a Subscription Paper is handed to me to meet its laudable purposes; to which I shall not only cheerfully contribute my mite but patronise it to the last hour day of my existence.

March 4, 1823.

AN ENGLISHMAN.
Justice Coloniale.

Le Magistrat qui Juge à son tour est Jugé.

à l'Éditeur du Journal de Calcutta.

MONSIEUR,

On s'est plaint récemment de la Police de *****
** l'on aurait eu raison, si, au lieu de l'attaquer par un fait inexact, on lui avait reproché la saleté des Rues et l'obstruction des Canaux qui nuisent à la salubrité de l'air, la multiplicité des Bestiaux qui courant librement dans la ville y peuvent blesser les Passans, les exactions des Pions et Domestiques en livrée qui rançonnent les Bazars au nom de leurs Maîtres; enfin, la coutume d'un grand nombre de Bengalis qui quittent leurs Faux-bourgs à cinq heures du matin pour venir au milieu de la ville établir un foyer d'infection.

Mais ces maux qui proviennent d'un défaut de surveillance ne sont pas comparables à ceux qui dérivent d'une justice sans principes. Il suffit d'indiquer ceux-là, pour les réparer, tandis qu'il faut pour remédier à ceux-ci, des sentiments, des efforts, des sacrifices qui nécessiteraient d'abord l'oubli de soi-même, ensuite la ferme volonté du bien, et par dessus tout, une noble résistance aux vœux d'un ministère avide, qui faisant argent de tout, semble n'avoir repris nos pauvres établissements que pour en exprimer le peu d'argent qu'leur restait.

On dépasserait beaucoup les bornes d'un Journal par le simple énoncé de nos vices judiciaires, et ***** occupe aujourd'hui une trop petite place au Bengal pour qu'il soit permis d'entrer en discussion à leur égard. Je me bornerai donc à signaler ses principaux abus, bien persuadé que tout homme honnête au courant de ce qui passe dans nos tribunaux conviendra, j'en parle avec infinité d'indulgence: *non quod sentio, sed quod necesse est, dico.*

Avant la formation du Code Français, l'un des plus beaux monumens du règne de Bonaparte, la multiplicité de nos Lois rendait quelque fois la justice arbitraire, et tel homme condamné à Lyon ou Bordeaux eût peut être gagné son procès à Paris; or la même chose a lieu dans nos Etablissements de *** où nous avons une Douzaine de Lois contradictoires et pas un règlement invariable et spécial. Tantôt on consulte une ordonnance de Louis XIV, qui roule en partie sur la manière de rouer et de torturer, tantôt on invoque une ordonnance de Louis XVI. Qui ne convient pas plus à ***** qu'à Pékin ou Lima. Quelque fois on s'en rapporte aux Codes Napoléon qu'on modifie selon l'urgence du moment, et le ministère public puiserait même dans les capitulaires de Charlemagne, les Instituts de Justinien et jusques dans le Pentateuque, s'il en avait besoin pour se donner gain de cause.

À ce vice radical on pourrait opposer les lumières et la conscience des Juges; mais malheureusement nous n'en avons pas un, soit à ***** soit à ***** qui soit constitué légalement, et si ceux qui remplissent ces fonctions savaient les conditions qu'elles exigent, leur conscience leur reprocherait d'abord de ne pas être à leur place.

En second lieu, le Président du Tribunal est précisément le Chef de la Colonie: c'est lui qui choisit les Juges dans chaque affaire, et ses instructions portent qu'il les prendra tous parmi les membres de l'Administration bureaucratique, d'abord parcequ'il y a économie, et ensuite parcequ'il n'y a que là qu'on trouve de l'esprit de la probité, et des lumières. Il en résulte qu'on est sûr de perdre son procès si l'on a l'audace d'attaquer un honorable Commissaire de la Marine, et qu'après avoir passé sur l'inamovibilité des juges, principale garantie d'une opinion libre et d'une justice impartiale, on viole encore ce principe d'équité reconnu

par les Papous et les Hollentots, qu'on ne peut être à la fois, Juge et Partie.

Au reste, comme on pourrait objecter que ce défaut de principes ne nuit pas à la justesse des applications et que nos Tribunaux pour n'avoir pas le sens commun, n'en sont pas moins très respectables, je prendrai la liberté de rapporter ici deux jugemens rendus en ma présence, en priant Mr. Le Président, Mr. Le Procureur du Roi et Messieurs les Juges d'excuser l'indiscrétion de ma démarche. Le premier concernait un homme que sa conduite, ses sentiments et ses fonctions devaient garantir d'un Soupon injurieux. On l'accusa d'un délit imaginaire d'ont on ne pouvait prouver l'existence. Ce présumé délit devint bientôt un crime, on ne voulut ni l'entendre ni lui répondre; il fut condamné *contumax*, peine que nos Lois n'offrent qu'aux Scélérats: on s'empara de tous ses biens quoi qu'il n'ait pas une Roupie de dette: on vendit en quelques heures le fruit de quatre Années de travaux pénibles, sans même épargner les instrumens de sa profession, et la produit de cette vente, lui fut aussi mystérieusement caché que les actes en vertu desquels, on l'avait condamné.

Dans le second jugement il s'agissait d'une cause déjà jugée en instance au Tribunal de la Cacherie et qui devait l'être de nouveau au Tribunal d'Appel. Par un hazard fort extraordinaire les Juges en *appel* se trouvaient être précisément les deux mêmes qui avaient Jugé en *instance*; et par un hazard encore plus extraordinaire, ces Juges sans s'apercevoir de leur incompétence donnerent précisément un avis contraire à celui qu'ils avaient émis huit jours auparavant.

Si dans des pareilles circonstances l'indignation n'était l'envie de rire, on serait tenté de rappeler aux Juges de **** * ce beau discours d'un Avocat Venitien: "illusterrimi Signori, l'anno passato aveva giudicato così; e questo anno nella medesima lite aveva giudicato tutto il contrario; e sempre ben!" mais la plaisanterie cède au dépit, quand on songe, que la fortune, la réputation, la vie même, de tout ce qui pâtit sur le Territoire appelé *Français*, se trouveraient exposés aux décisions d'un semblable Tribunal, et que cette absence de toute équité, ce défaut de Juges inamovibles, cette violation manifeste aux Lois les plus sacrées, enfin, cette composition ignoble de nos Tribunaux, n'ont pas d'autre source que l'avidité du Ministère de la Marine et la coupable condescendance de ses Agents qui craignent d'en courir, par la dénonciation de ces abus, le ressentiment des *Chefs-bouilleurs* de l'Administration coloniale.

Si nous n'avons ni Juges, ni Justice à ***** et ***** c'est parceque le salaire des uns, ainsi que les frais nécessaires à l'autre, diminueraient de quelques milliers de Roupies les revenus de la Marine qui ne tient pas plus à l'indépendance de nos Tribunaux qu'à l'honneur de nos armes. Un Juge l'également constitué ne coûterait pas moins de sept à huit cent Roupies par mois, et la Marine en veut avoir pour 110 ou 120: il y a économie d'une part et de l'autre l'avantage inappréciable d'obtenir tel jugement qu'on veut, car un Juge à 110 ou 120 Roupies doit en avoir grand besoin, et, comme la disposition de ce modique Salaire appartient au Gouverneur; il peut acheter l'opinion de celui qu'il choisit ou lui ôter sa place, s'il ne veut pas la vendre. Tant que les Procès sont sans importance, il y a peu d'inconvénients à ces abus, mais on conçoit combien ils peuvent être pernicieux quand l'affaire est grave, quand la partie poursuivie a le malheur de déplaire à l'autorité, et quand surtout, le Président du Tribunal est un tartufé et un ignorant, ou le Procureur du Roi un sot et un méchant, comme nous l'avons vu dans les deux jugemens cités plus haut.

Je ne pousserai pas plus loin, cet exposé rapide de notre justice coloniale; c'en est assez pour dégoûter les lecteurs progressifs de venir plaider dans nos Tribunaux, et je concilie à tout homme prudent qui s'y trouverait accusé d'avoir enlevé l'Eglise de ***** ou l'Hôtel du Gouvernement de ***** de quitter promptement le territoire appelé *Français*, plutôt que de s'exposer aux chances d'un procès qu'il pourrait perdre.

J'ai l'honneur d'être,

Calcutta, le 24, Fevr. 1823.

UN VIEUX COLON.

ASIATIC DEPARTMENT.

— 77 —

Second Light Cavalry.

DIVISION ORDERS BY MAJOR GENERAL THOMAS,
C. B.—KEITAH, FEBRUARY 12, 1823.

The Major General was happy to find his old friends, the 2d Light Cavalry, in such admirable training this morning. The gallantry of style which he so much admired, twelve years ago at Muttra, has reappeared to him with undiminished animation; and the general appearance of this Corps was no less brilliant.

2d.—The regularity and precision with which they galloped up into column and deployed again, afforded him extreme satisfaction. The skirmishing at speed, was very good. The eschelon movements were peculiarly pleasing, and the sword exercise was really beautiful.

3d.—The Major General remarked with sentiments of approbation the excellent condition of the horses, while the freedom from vice among them argued conclusively an unremitting attention to field exercises. The march in review enabled the Major General to observe that similar pains had been bestowed, with effect in giving to the men a graceful seat and yet a powerful command of their horses.

4th.—That so much of perfection should be preserved with so few European Officers to assist, reflects highly to the credit of the Corps, while it speaks volumes in praise of their Commander, Major Johnstone. As the Major General will march to-morrow morning, he wishes the Regiment every happiness, and shall not fail to state their merits in adequate terms to His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief.

Indian Improvement.

To the Editor of the Journal.

SIR,

In this age of improvement it is painful to reflect, that something seems still wanting to place the Metropolis of British India on a footing, in point of Fashionable Amusements, with the capital of our revered mother country; however, I cannot but feel some consolation when I consider, that the deficiency I allude to, is not altogether insuperable, as I shall endeavour to shew; and I hope that the proposal, which I am about to make, will attract the notice of some public spirited individual who may possess the ability, as well as the inclination, to assist us in our progress towards the attainment of perfection in the display of elegant accomplishments.

Less than half a century ago, if a Prophet had appeared, and foretold the present ameliorated state of British India, who would have credited him? he might as well have preached to the "viewless winds" as to the unbelieving inhabitants of Britain. Truly, the reform has been; "prodigious," Law and Divinity have marched hand in hand; Justice and Charity have spread through the land; the Heathen have been invited to taste the pure blessings of the Gospel; the interests of the Established Church have been carefully consulted; and places of Worship have wonderfully multiplied; thus far, has the moral improvement of the millions entrusted to our care been steadily pursued. While, on the other hand, I am told, the dashing youths of the "Buildings" have, in pursuit of the joyous chase, rivalled the most break-neck Fox-hunters of Old England, and the Calcutta Turf need scarcely shrink from a competition with the far-famed Course of New-market. Still there is something wanting, which, I am convinced, only needs to be pointed out in order to be supplied. Indeed I am surprised that this deficiency appears not to have been felt, though many have doubtless felt it without having expressed a public opinion on the subject. You have a Theatre, whose boards have been graced by performers, who would not have discredited the Classic Stages of Covent Garden or "Old Drury;" you have Concerts at which the lover of harmony may banish the cares and anxieties of the day, and feel his pleasurable sensations rendered more exquisite, while listening to the enchanting powers of Music;

"Our joys below it can improve,
And antedate the bliss above."

You have thorough-bred Hunters,—thorough-bred Riders, too

"To witch the world with noble horse-manship;"

few of whom, I hope, are guilty of that thoughtlessness which Horace has imputed to the Roman Sportsman,

"Manet sub Jove frigido
Venator, tenerae conjugis immemor;
Seu visa est catulis cerva fidelibus,
Seu rupit teretes marsus aper plagas."

The following English version of which, I venture to supply as more applicable to the nature of Indian Sports,

The thoughtless Sportsman late remains

Abroad, while vainly *khana* waits,
And scarce his better-half sustains,

The fear his reckless course creates,
Whether at Jackals he cheer on his Dogs,
Or transfix with his spear Bengal Wild Hogs.

You have Cockpits where,

"Pecoris generasi nullus
Altius ingreditur, et mollia crura reponit;"

and where, I understand, the feats of the feathered heroes have equalled, if not surpassed, the most celebrated *Fowl* displays of Westminster. But, Sir, you have no professors of the noble and interesting science of pugilism. Calcutta cannot yet vie with Mousley Hurst, with Croydon Common, or that lately immortalized field of fame, Huntingford Down, where

"Multa viri nequicquam inter se vulnera jaetant,
Multa cava latere ingeminant, et pectore vastos
Dant sonitus; erratque aures et tempora circum
Crebra manus; duro crepitant sub vulnera male."

while thirty thousand anxious and animated spectators

"made the welkin ring,"

with shouts of well-merited applauses alternately bestowed on those illustrious heroes of the fist who, on that day, "covered themselves with glory." Of the antiquity of this noble science, there can be no dispute; the immortal gods even, disdained not the practice of it, and the son of the "Cloud-compeller" himself, was a distinguished professor of the art,

"Pollicem pugiles, Castora placet eques."

In modern times, SENATORS have advocated the practice of it; Peers and Princes have honored the display of it with their presence, and encouraged it with their support; and the exemplary conduct, amiable manners, and distinguished urbanity of the professors, have entitled them to, and obtained them a patronage, extensive indeed, but not more than commensurate with their deserts.

Now as no specimen of this delightful science has ever been exhibited in Calcutta, I wish, through the medium of your Paper, to propose that a Subscription be raised, and that the amount when adequate to the purpose, be remitted to Mr. Jackson, a gentleman of whom I may truly say, that

"He is complete in mind,

With all good grace to grace a gentleman;"

and that he be requested to send out, by the earliest and most favorable opportunity, some lads of mettle,

"His nam plebecula gaudet."

Of the liberality of the Indian Public, I shall say nothing; they have ever been celebrated for their munificence,—a splendid instance of which, we have lately seen in the handsome subscription for the relief of our suffering fellow subjects in Ireland (Ireland by the bye has produced some pretty Boxers), and have we not lately heard of subscriptions proposed for Statues Equestrian and Pedestrian, for Diamond Stars and for Garters, and shall we doubt that the proposal, which I thus beg leave to lay before your readers, will fail of effect? I cannot think it Sir,

"Dū talem avertite casum"

I am, Sir, your very obedient Servant

Agra, February 1, 1823.

AS YOU LIKE IT.

Superintending Surgeons.

“He could tell what’s ever was
By consequence to come to pass
As DEATH OF GREAT MEN, ALTERATIONS,
DISEASES, BATTLES, INUNDATIONS,
What gains or loses; hangs or saves,
What makes men GREAT, what FOOLS, or KNAVES
But not what WISE.”—Butler.

To the Editor of the Journal.

SIR,

I should have imagined (*had I not daily proof that the world is full of selfish reasoners.*) “GRYPHUS PIS” needed not have troubled the *Profession* with his **IMPORTANT QUERIES**; for it is notorious to all Officers holding Staff Appointments, as well as to all looking out for such INCUMBRANCES, that they cannot be held but in virtue of a CERTAIN RANK, and therefore must be relinquished on LOSING IT.

But for this, all our Majors would be in Staff Situations, viz.; Commandants of Provincial Battalions, Brigade Majors, Barrack Masters, Deputy Pay Masters, &c. &c. and no doubt many there are who wish it to be so; but as I am expecting something official myself, (were a new Regulation to take place in the Medical Department, the same might extend further,) I like the discussion before me—but no Sir; THIS CAN NEVER BE; and I am glad to find Mr. GRYP is only combating an individual’s opinion in opposition to a better!—better I say, because it happens by accident to be somewhat alike to my own.

Let me therefore add, before I put down my pen, that in addition to GRYP’s decisive proof, viz.: THE ENCREASE OF PENSION ATTACHED TO THE RANK; there is still another, which convinces me a Superintending Surgeon cannot be a Staff Appointment:—it is this, we have never seen the Appointment given away in reward of superior merit; nor has any Surgeon been heard to express his hopes, thro’ interest of any kind, to attain the rank before it would come to his turn by due course of Seniority.

That a full Surgeon should SOMETIMES wish to give up promotion, I can easily conceive; so might a Commander of a Provincial Battalion, especially were he so attached to what he had long enjoyed as to feel a disinclination, “poor fellow” to part with it, or, when so near the acme of his pecuniary wishes, as to feel it a disappointment not to continue in the situation which would complete them.

All this is very easily supposed; but not so the GRANT of such unreasonable desires. Suppose, for instance, the Government wants a Major or a Superintending Surgeon, and one of each is promoted (there is a provision in the Medical Service which insures to Government that the latter is duly qualified) and they should both decline the duties attached to their promotion. How absurd!—**DECLINE?**—Yes, Sir, decline according to Mr. GRYP’s opponent; and what is still more ludicrous, inform the Governor-General or Commander-in-Chief, that they do not like the duties which have fallen to them; but, preferring their *present* Staff Appointments they cannot meet the wishes of the Government, but will notify the desire for promotion when more suited to **THEIR** *ease, profit, or inclination*. By heavens! it makes me laugh. In truth does it. Aye, Sir, it does, altho’ it would be on the other side of the mouth if, *under any RULE*, selfish reasoners should make music of such absurdities.

Yours, Sir, obediently,

RALPH.

Stations of Vessels in the River.

CALCUTTA, MARCH 4, 1823.

At Diamond Harbour.—THAMES, and SUN, (brig), passed down.

Kedgeree.—NERRUDDA, and LORD WELLINGTON, outward-bound, remain,—MERCURE, (F.), ARAM, LOUISA, (brig), JOHN SHONE, (brig), and FRANKLIN, (Amron.), passed down.

New Anchorage.—H. C. Ships GENERAL HEWETT, and THAMES.

Sanger.—DAVID SCOTT, outward-bound, remains.

Selections.

Madras, Feb. 20.—We expected before this period, to have been enabled to have announced the arrival of the **ALLIGATOR**, and one or two other Ships, from England; but no Ship of this description had made her appearance when the Gazette was sent to the Press.

It appears by late communications from Canton, that affairs among the Chinese were beginning to assume their former aspect, and that buildings were rising rapidly—that trade, though considerably deranged and impeded for a time, was likely, it was thought, to suffer less upon the whole, than might have been apprehended after so dreadful a visitation as the late fire.

The foregoing article was sent to the Press before the arrival of the ARGYLE.

Private Letters from Canton by that Ship, as late as the 17th ultimo, mention, that the Chinese were fast recovering from the effects of the late conflagration, and that in another month, the whole of the Town that was destroyed would be rebuilt, and so exactly on the same plan, that a person arriving there, and ignorant of the calamity, would hardly perceive any change.—The ARGYLE has brought a full Cargo from Madras. The H. C.’s Ships remaining in China and expected to sail in all January, were, the MACQUEEN, FAIRLIE, CANNING, BALCARRAS, SIR DAVID SCOTT, LONDON, and DUCHESS OF ATHOL.

Earthquake.—The shock of an Earthquake, a very rare occurrence in this part of India, was felt in the Peninsula, on Sunday afternoon the 9th instant—it appears to have been very slight at Madras, though noticed by several persons: while sitting on a chair and reading at the time, we felt an undulatory motion—very slight indeed, and which lasted only a few seconds—but so uncommon, that we were induced to note the time; which we found was about 10 minutes past one.—This Earthquake was felt at the Neilgherry Hills, as appears by the following communication which we have just received, and it would seem to have happened there earlier than at Madras, though the exact time at the Hills, remains somewhat uncertain.

Cotagerry, February 10, 1823.—Two distinct shocks of an Earthquake were felt in my Bungalow yesterday; I had not the means of immediately ascertaining the exact time, but it must have been within a few minutes of one o’clock—a party of nine persons were assembled—one was standing—two were sitting on a couch—the others, nearly in a line, were on chairs.—The person standing, and those on the couch did not experience any shock—the others did, and the sensation was accompanied by a sudden nausea—a small book which I had placed on its end on the floor, was thrown down.—The interval between the shocks I judge to have been about two minutes—the last was the most violent.—I have not heard that any bad consequence has followed, and to my own sensations, the motion was slight on both occasions; the place where this occurred is on a small hill, near the village of Cotagerry, rather a high spot on the easterly edge of the table land of the Neilgherry Hills.

Madras Appointment.—Mr. W. R. Taylor, to be Second Assistant in the Office of the Accountant General.—*Madras Government Gazette.*

Attempt at Revolution in Manilla.—Accounts have been received by the last arrival from Manilla, of an unsuccessful attempt at a Revolution—the object of which was, to render the colony independent of Spain. Fifteen of the principal people had been arrested and were put on board ship, preparatory to being sent to Spain for trial. The fears of the Government were sufficiently expressed by the precautions they took respecting these persons. The Ship, on board which they were, lay in the midst of the wide bay of Manilla, surrounded in every direction by a cordon of armed boats. Among the persons thus arrested, there were two Priests, and two Spanish Officers of rank, who had just arrived with the new Governor. The capacity of such colony as the Phillipines to maintain a separate independence, appears to us very problematical, not from want of numbers, for these islands are computed to contain 3,000,000 of people, but because the population is divided within itself, by difference of color, language and manners, while the proportion of the European race, or that sprung from it, is but a mere fraction in the mass of its barbarous and ferocious Asiatic population. China itself might almost effect the conquest of such a state, if deprived of European protection, (an attempt once made before); but the greater probability is, that it will become a dependency of one of the new Governments of South America, most probably, of that of Chili, the inhabitants of which, have hitherto displayed, as we may expect from their climate, the greatest degree of energy and enterprise.—*Hurkaru.*

Calcutta Medical and Physical Society.—On Saturday evening, a Meeting of the Medical Gentlemen belonging to the Civil and Military Departments at this Presidency, was held at the Asiatic Society’s Rooms, for the purpose of organizing a Society for the promotion of Medical Literature.

Dr. Hare was called to the Chair, and a series of Resolutions read, and after some few alterations agreed to.

The Heads of resolutions were as follows:—

That the Society be called the Medical and Physical Society of Calcutta, and have for its object the receipt of communications in Medicine, Surgery, Chemistry, and Natural History.

That the Medical Board be requested to become Patrons.

That the following Gentlemen be elected Office Bearers for the years:—President, Dr. Hare,—Vice-President, Dr. Mellis,—Secretary, Dr. Adam,—and that in addition to these the four following Gentlemen be appointed to form a Committee of Papers, &c. viz. Messieurs Crawford, H. Wilson, Grant and Newmark. That an invitation be sent to the Medical Gentlemen throughout Bengal, to the Medical Boards, and to the Medical Gentlemen of the Sister Presidencies, to assist in promoting the objects of the Society, and in establishing a Library and a museum.

That the Medical Gentlemen in the King's and Company's Army, and all who have been regularly educated in the Medical Profession be eligible as members.

That Gentlemen desirous of entering the Society be proposed and ballotted for, and their elections be decided by the majority.

That resident members at the Presidency, Dum-Dum, and Barrackpore contribute 12 rupees quarterly, and non residents a like sum half yearly, payable in advance to meet the present exigencies.

That Donations of Books, Medical Preparations, and specimens in Natural History be thankfully received.

That the Meetings be held on the first Saturday of every month at 8 p. m. (by permission) at the Asiatic Society's Rooms.

The Thanks of the Meeting were then voted to Dr. Hare, and the business of the evening closed.—John Bull.

Court of Requests.

CALCUTTA—TUESDAY, MARCH 4, 1823.

Bebe Nancy versus Bebe Johanna and Another.

The following novel case, came on this day, for hearing before Mr. Commissioner ROBINSON.

The Plaintiff (a very old woman,) sought to recover from the Defendants (her Daughters) the sum of Sicca Rupees Ten, for arrears of a monthly allowance, directed to be made to her by them. The Plaintiff, it appeared, some months ago applied to the Police Magistrates, for their interference, in compelling her Daughters to pay a monthly sum for her maintenance, who in consequence made an order, directing them to allow her one rupee eight annas per mensem, and it was to recover payment of these arrears, that the present suit was instituted.

The Defendants admitted, that such an order had been passed, but pleaded inability on their parts to comply with it,—alleging that their Mother had received a considerable sum of money for their prostitution,—that they were but barely supported by the persons under whose protection they now lived, and that if the demand was enforced, they had no recourse, but must go to Prison! This statement was not denied by the Mother,—but she contended, that the Commissioner was bound to recognise the act of the Magistrate, and to award payment of the arrears.

MR. ROBINSON was however of a different opinion,—he thought that the Plaintiff appeared before the Court, under very unfavorable circumstances, in demanding maintenance from the very persons she had prostituted for Money; and as it did not appear to the Court, that these poor helpless females had any means at their disposal to liquidate the demand, he *Nonsuited* the Plaintiff.

NOTE:—A charge has been indistriontly propagated, that our sole aim in reporting the decisions of this Court, is to bring the Administration of Justice into contempt. We deny this, and declare that we shall not be deterred by any threats from following the course we have hitherto adopted, and bringing similar cases under the notice of our readers. It affords us much pleasure to be enabled to state, that in all the cases which came before the Gentleman, who decided the above, he displayed the greatest patience and urbanity in examining the Native Witnesses, and used every exertion to obtain a thorough knowledge of its merits.—ED.

COURSE OF EXCHANGE.

CALCUTTA.

[SELL]

1 17 2 2} On London 6 Months sight, per Sicca Rupees, . . . 2 2 2
Bombay 30 Days sight, per 100 Bombay Rupees . . . 92
Madras ditto, 94 a 98 Sa. Rs. per 100 Madras Rupees. *

Bills on Court of Directors drawn, at 2 6—Exchange 26 a 28 pr. cent. prem.
Bank Shares—Premium 60 to 62 per cent.

Narcotic Preparations.

To the Editor of the Oriental Magazine.

Sir,

Having my attention some years ago particularly directed to diseases of the eye, I made a few experiments in my own person, with a view of ascertaining the effects of Narcotic Medicines, when applied to that organ in its sound state. These experiments were necessarily on a limited scale, as I was residing at a distant station; and I could command only the more common articles, issued from the public stores. They were confined to Opium, Hyoscyamus, Digitalis, and D'hatura. Facts of this sort, however, being always in some degree valuable, I considered the results of sufficient interest to be noted down at the time; and should the following short account of the experiments, with the accompanying remarks, be found worthy of a place in your Magazine, it may induce others to repeat them, and thus pave the way for more important deductions.

Tincture of Opium, applied externally to the eyelids, and eyebrows, produced no change whatever, either in the appearance, or functions of the organ. Tincture of Hyoscyamus, applied as above, after an hour and a half dilated the pupil, and rendered vision obscure. The sensation, produced in the affected eye, was that of tightness or restraint, as if adhesion had taken place between some of the internal membranes; and from the account a friend gave me of his sensations, subsequent to inflammation of the iris, I should compare it to the feeling, occasioned by adhesion of the iris to the capsule of the lens.

Tincture of Digitalis caused no change in the size of the pupil; but five or six minutes after its application, vision in that eye became strangely affected. A circular spectrum, about the size of a rupee, rested before the eye, in the axis of vision, of a dark green color at the outer margin, inclining to yellow internally; the shade of color diminishing in intensity, as the rays approached the centre, which was white, or transparent. Vision was also very obscure, and the same feeling of restraint accompanied it, as in the case of the Hyoscyamus. These effects did not continue longer, than sixteen or twenty hours.

An infusion of the seeds and capsules of the D'hatura (*metel?*) dilated the pupil more speedily than any medicine, which I had ever applied to the eye. Along with the dilatation of the pupil, the D'hatura caused also much obscurity of vision, and near objects appeared diminished in size. Small print was reduced about one third. It could barely be recognized, as a composition of characters, at the distance of one foot. At two feet, I could distinguish the lines and intervals between words, but could not decypher these, so as to make them legible in any situation. On looking at objects far removed, as half or a quarter of a mile, they were not discernible with the eyelids fully opened, but came into view on closing them to a certain degree, and were at last almost as plainly to be seen with the eye, which had been the subject of experiment, as with the other; but on a reduced scale. In the open state of the eyelids, a small border of fog appeared to surround each object. These effects continued during four or five days, and a fortnight after the experiment was made the eye had not recovered its wonted vigor; nor was vision for a much longer period so perfect as on the opposite side.

From the above detail it seems obvious, that the narcotics, subjected to experiment, possess different powers, in their action on the living fibre, though all perhaps agree in the common property, from whence they derive their name. Opium exerts no visible agency whatever; though Hyoscyamus, and D'hatura dilate the pupil in the same manner as Belladonna, and may be employed in operations for cataract with equal success.

The D'hatura, in most of its varieties, being indigenous to India, the knowledge of this fact becomes of importance to the faculty, as the vegetable extracts from Europe soon spoil in this climate, and are not procurable in every situation. From my own experience, I should give the D'hatura a decided preference, over all the others. The dried capsules, and seeds, may be got in every bazar; and an extract, prepared from them, at the proper season, will be found to retain its virtues, if mixed with a little alcohol, till a fresh crop of the plant furnish another supply. In what respect the several varieties of D'hatura vary, in their action on the animal economy, I am not exactly aware. For the purpose of intoxication, and other practices still more reprehensible, the natives employ all of them indiscriminately; but consider the *Lat. D'hatura*, or *Fastuosa*, the most potent of the genus. An extract prepared from the D'hatura stramonium, which is said to be found in India, is now in general use, as an internal remedy in England, and considered a valuable addition to the Pharmacopœia. I have myself made trial of it, and am disposed to think favorably of its power; but as I have already extended these remarks, to a greater length, than you may deem admissible, I shall defer what I have to say on this subject, till a future opportunity. Before concluding, however, let me merely suggest a practical application of the foregoing experiments, which may be useful

to medical men at distant stations, and indeed in all situations. It is to employ the eye as a test of the soundness of their narcotic preparations. As many of the vegetable drugs from home, and particularly the Hyoscyamus, are spoiled before they are put to actual use in this country, and much disappointment frequently ensues both to the patient and his physician, the latter can always satisfy himself of the purity of the medicine before hand, by merely trying the eye of any of his servants, and watching the effect produced. More accurate data are wanting, indeed, to form a standard of comparison, than those I have now furnished; but the principle being obvious, any one can institute a set of experiments for that purpose. I shall perhaps do so myself, and in that case you may expect to hear again from me.

Calcutta, Feb. 20. Your's &c.

MEDICUS.

A Green Horn's Enquiry.

To the Editor of Bengal Hurkurn.

DEAR SIR, A few evenings ago, I went to take a stroll in the large square (usually called Loll Dicky,) having been informed that it was a place of public resort, and open to every one; but this to my surprise, I found to be false, as the gates were locked, and the Sentry who was stationed there, would allow no one to enter. Finding myself disappointed in this quarter, I directed my steps towards the Scotch Church, and from thence down the street, called Loll Bazar. I had not proceeded far in this direction, before I observed a large concourse of Carriages, Palankins, &c. In hopes of this being a Theatre, or a Circus, I enquired in the best language I was master of.—What house that was? and received for answer, "Chumra ka Nauteh Sahib,—Unwilling to betray my ignorance of the language, I immediately returned homewards, repeating the above words to myself as I went. As soon as I had reached home, I applied myself to my vocabulary for an elucidation of the words, "Chumra ka Nauteh," and found the first of these signified, a Skin or Hide, and the other a Dance, or in other words "the Hide Dance." Since that time I have learned that the house to which I alluded was a Mason Lodge;—Quere? What has a Skin or Hide Dance to do with an assembly of Free and Accepted Masons. If you think this question worth a place in your Paper, insert it, and Oblige.

Your Obedient Servant,

March 4, 1823.

A GRIFFIN.

Shipping Arrivals.

CALCUTTA.

| Date | Names of Vessels | Flags | Commanders | From Whence | Left |
|---------|---------------------------|------------------|------------|-------------|------|
| March 5 | Barreto June, Portg. | A. Vasconcellos | Singapore | Feb. 11 | |
| 5 | Conde do Rio Pardo Portg. | J. S. R. Cardoza | Macao | Jan. 30 | |
| 5 | Francis Warden British | W. Webster | Rangoon | Feb. 18 | |

MADRAS.

| Date | Names of Vessels | Flags | Commanders | From Whence | Left |
|---------|---------------------------|-----------------|-------------|-------------|------|
| Feb. 16 | Providence British | S. Owen | Calcutta | Feb. 6 | |
| 17 | Warren Hastings British | G. Mason | Calcutta | Jan. 26 | |
| 17 | H.M.S. Termagrant British | R. G. Dunlop | Trincomalee | Feb. 11 | |
| 17 | Marq of Hastings British | J. H. Carter | Calcutta | Feb. 9 | |
| 17 | Larkins British | H. R. Wilkinson | Calcutta | Jan. 31 | |
| 18 | Argyle British | J. R. Harding | China | Jan. 20 | |
| 18 | Sarah British | B. Codling | Penang | Jan. 5 | |

BOMBAY.

| Date | Names of Vessels | Flags | Commanders | From Whence | Left |
|---------|-----------------------|---------------|------------|-------------|------|
| Feb. 13 | Bombay Castle British | C. Hutchinson | China | Dec. 22 | |
| 14 | Caron British | T. McCarthy | Calcutta | Jan. 4 | |
| 14 | Elizabeth British | D. Robertson | Calcutta | | |
| 14 | Hydros Arab | Aboobuker | Penang | | |

Shipping Departures.

MADRAS.

| Date | Names of Vessels | Flags | Commanders | From Whence | Destination |
|---------|----------------------------|-----------|------------|-------------|-------------|
| Feb. 16 | Cornelia Catherine British | A. Prince | Penang | | |
| 18 | York British | J. Talbut | London | | |

BOMBAY.

| Date | Names of Vessels | Flags | Commanders | From Whence | Destination |
|---------|------------------|------------|------------|-------------|-------------|
| Feb. 12 | Columbia British | J. Chapman | London | | |

Deaths.

On the 4th instant, Mrs. AGATHA VALLENTE, the Wife of Mr. J. J. VALLENTE, Senior, aged 68 years.
At Trichinopoly, on the 10th ultimo, Lieutenant EDWIN MAINWARING, of the Royal Regiment.

The petition of a Stranger.

Dear Lady listen to my prayer,
Oh! take me to your tender care,
A babbling bird from far I roam,
Transported from my native home.
Anxions to find some lovely mate,
To sooth the hardness of my fate,
And Oh! if you will prove but kind,
And soothe the anguish of my mind,
I'll willing learn to speak your name
And teach all other birds the same.
Thus does your humble suppliant sue,
Your would-be faithful,

Felix Place, Jan. 20, 1823.

COCKATOO.

Marryatt's Flags.

SIR,

To the Editor of the Journal.

It is well known that many of the vessels trading out of and to this Port, are provided with Marryatt's Flags, and it was suggested to me by a friend of mine a short time since, that it would be an arrangement of great utility, to give every vessel either belonging to, or regularly trading to Bengal, a Number placed opposite to her name in the regular alphabetical List of Shipping, to which one column might be added for the purpose of containing the Numbers, and another for a colored engraving of the flags representing them. Another List (besides the one now yearly published) should be made out in the same order, for the names of Free Traders and other vessels regularly resorting here.

On looking at yesterday's Report, the suggestion of my friend was forcibly recalled to my mind by the interesting intelligence it contained, viz. a ship below the Light House working up, name not ascertained. Now if the proposed arrangement were carried into effect, and a Copy of the Lists in the form described, snuiped to the Post Office at Kedgeree, the Post Master or his Deputy, would always be able to "ascertain" the name, which the Public would be informed of, and those immediately concerned, either Owners or Agents, would most probably know, and perhaps communicate to the Banksball on application for it, the other particulars, such as whence she came, cargo, &c. at all events, the name would be one point gained, and not an unimportant one, when we consider how often particular ships are expected and anxiously looked out for.

I have supposed, you will observe, that when the Numbers are fixed on for every vessel, each will be provided with the flags, and as small and cheap sets of these are made up here, I think it would be no great hardship to make it incumbent on every vessel belonging to the Port to have them; this might be effected in the same manner as, and at the same time with, the fixing on Numbers for the vessels; and the whole would perhaps be best managed and carried into effect by a General Meeting of the Ship Owners, Underwriters and Commanders to be called for the purpose. I merely throw this out as a hint, however; the arrangement of the *modus operandi*, I leave to wiser heads.

Besides the satisfaction of always knowing the name of a vessel arriving here, as soon as her arrival could be made known by the dawk, which the giving each a Number, and obliging all to have Marryatt's Flags would insure, we should have the further and important advantage of knowing the names of vessels fallen in with at sea by others bound to this Port, instead of being vaguely informed, that such a vessel saw a large ship to the Eastward, &c. Trusting this will meet the eyes of some of those who may deem the subject worthy attention, I subscribe myself

Yours, &c.

Hourah, Monday, March 3, 1823.

ARION.

Marriage.

On the 1st instant, at St. John's Cathedral, by the Reverend J. PARSON, Mr. C. JONES, to Miss ELIZA BECK, second Daughter of the late Captain J. BECK, of the Country Service.